

US slams new settlements

BRADLEY KLAPPER
MATTHEW LEE

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration is getting little help from its ally Israel nor anybody else as it pleads for a fresh start in Israeli-Palestinian peace talks that could avert a veto showdown over the Palestinians' unilateral bid at the United Nations for statehood recognition.



A man works on a site in the Jewish neighborhood of Gilo in east Jerusalem, Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2011. Israel's government on Tuesday granted the final go-ahead for the construction of 1,100 new housing units in occupied east Jerusalem.

(AP Photo/Tara Todras-whitehill)

Already disappointed by Palestinian distaste for the new U.S.-backed proposal to resume long-stalled negotiations, the administration was taken aback anew on Tuesday when Israel announced plans to construct new Jewish housing units in east Jerusalem. The Israeli move made a hard job even harder for the United States, which is trying to protect Israel from a U.N. vote on Palestinian statehood that Israel bitterly opposes. □

Sinking Ship?

Advisor Axelrod: Obama faces "titanic struggle"



President Barack Obama waves after a Democratic fundraiser at the House of Blues in West Hollywood, Calif. President Obama's chief political adviser on Tuesday conceded that a dark cloud looms over the American economy and Obama's political future, describing the president's road to a second term in the White House as "a titanic struggle."
(AP Photo/Chris Carlson)
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Advisor Axelrod: Obama faces "titanic struggle"

STEVE PEOPLES

Associated Press

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire (AP) —

President Barack Obama's chief political adviser on Tuesday conceded that a dark cloud looms over the American economy and Obama's political future, describing the president's road to a second term in the White House as "a titanic struggle."

"We have the wind in our face because the American people have the wind in their faces," David Axelrod told an audience of New Hampshire politicians and business leaders. "So this is going to be a titanic struggle."

But I firmly believe we're on the right side of the struggle."

But even as he acknowledged the stark political reality, Axelrod said the president would ultimately win re-election, in part because of the flawed field of



President Barack Obama talks about his jobs bill at Lincoln High School in Denver, Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2011. (AP Photo/Ed Andrieski)

Republican candidates. He characterized their plans to repair the ailing U.S. econo-

my as the same kind of deregulation and tax cuts that caused the downturn in the

first place.

He also assailed Republican contenders, former Massa-

chusetts Gov. Mitt Romney and Texas Gov. Rick Perry, in an interview with The Associated Press.

Axelrod took issue with Romney's assertion that he's among the candidates with the least political experience in the Republican field.

Romney held just one full term as governor but has run for higher office four times since 1994.

He also went after Perry.

"He holds up Texas as a model," Axelrod said. "You look at Texas and they have among the lowest wages in the country, the highest rate of uninsured people, some of the worst performance in their schools."

Obama's campaign has said that the 2012 election will be a "choice, not a referendum" on Obama, making clear they intend to draw sharp contrasts with whomever Republicans nominate next year. □

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Islamic charity leader sentenced to nearly 3 years



Pete Seda leaves the Federal Courthouse with members of his defense team, including federal public defender Steve Wax, left, Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2011 in Eugene, Ore.
 (AP Photo/The Register-Guard, Brian Davies)

JEFF BARNARD

Associated Press

EUGENE, Oregon (AP) — The leader of the U.S. branch of a defunct Islamic charity was sentenced Tuesday to nearly three years in prison after being convicted of helping smuggle \$150,000 to Saudi Arabia.

U.S. District Judge Michael Hogan said that while he has no doubt the money went to Islamic fighters battling the Russian army in Chechnya, as the prosecution maintained, there's no proof directly linking Pete Seda to terrorism. For that reason, Hogan said he wouldn't apply the so-called "terrorism enhancement" that could have sent Seda to prison for eight years. Instead, Hogan sentenced Seda to 33 months in prison, ordered him to pay the Internal Revenue Service \$80,980 in restitution, and allowed him to remain free for 60 days before reporting. □

Seizing populist mantle, Obama pushes jobs bill

MARK LANDLER

© 2011 New York Times

DENVER — After two days of energetically raising money in the rarefied precincts of Hollywood and Silicon Valley, President Barack Obama stopped at a big-city high school here Tuesday to push for new ways to spend money.

Promoting his \$450 billion jobs bill, Obama said the \$25 billion in the legislation for repairing and renovating schools would allow Abraham Lincoln High School, a well-kept but aging institution, to update science laboratories of a 1960s vintage.

"My question to Congress is: What on earth are we waiting for? Let's get to work," Obama said to a boisterous crowd of students. Speaking in shirt-sleeves under a baking sun, he asked: "Why should our students be allowed to study in crumbling, outdated schools? How does that give them the sense that education is important?" Neither Obama's choice of Colorado, nor of this heavily Latino high school in a struggling part of Denver, was accidental.

He carried Colorado in 2008, and with his support wobbling in other swing states like Ohio, analysts believe he will need to hold on to it next year to put together a winning electoral map.

But Colorado, as much as any state, symbolizes the

ebb tide in Obama's political fortunes. He accepted the Democratic nomination in this state and signed the \$787 billion stimulus package here. But with the jobless rate here rising to 8.5 percent

ing neighborhoods.

Reprising the populist themes of recent speeches in Ohio, North Carolina and Virginia, Obama repeatedly challenged Republicans to pass the jobs bill. Extending the cut in payroll

el in it.

"If asking a millionaire to pay the same tax rate as a plumber or a teacher makes me a class warrior, a warrior for the middle class, I will accept that; I'll wear that as a badge of honor,"



President Barack Obama speaks at Abraham Lincoln High School in Denver, Sept. 27, 2011. While promoting his jobs bill Tuesday, Obama said that it has been two weeks since he sent the proposal to congress and that he would like it back so the nation can start putting people back to work.

(Stephen Crowley/The New York Times)

from 7.4 percent since then, even Democrats here say Colorado could be an uphill battle.

The Lincoln High speech also enabled Obama to reach out to Latino voters, who helped elect him. More than 95 percent of the students here receive federal meal benefits, local officials said — a measure of the poverty in the surround-

taxes would put \$1,700 into the pockets of a typical Colorado working family, Obama said, and refusing to do so would amount to hitting them with a tax increase. Cries of "pass the bill" competed with chants of "four more years."

Far from rejecting the Republican accusation that he is waging class warfare, Obama now seems to rev-

Obama said. "Because the only class warfare I've seen is the battle that's been waged against the middle class in this country for a decade now."

For all the populist fire on display, Colorado may be kinder to Obama than the traditional battlegrounds of the Midwest because of its more affluent and educated independent voters. □

Dylan paintings draw scrutiny among some

DAVE ITZKOFF

© 2011 New York Times

NEW YORK — The freewheeling artistic style of Bob Dylan, who has drawn on a variety of sources in creating his music and has previously raised questions of attribution in his work, is once again stirring debate — this time over an exhibition of Dylan's paintings at the Gagosian Gallery in Manhattan. When the gallery announced the exhibition, called "The Asia Series," this month, it said the collection of paintings and other art-

work would provide "a visual journal" of Dylan's travels "in Japan, China, Vietnam, and Korea," with "firsthand depictions of people, street scenes, architecture and landscape."

But since the exhibition opened Sept. 20, some fans and Dylanologists have raised questions about whether some of these paintings are based on the singer's own experiences and observations, or on photographs that are widely available and were not taken by Dylan.

A wide-ranging discussion at the Bob Dylan fan website Expecting Rain has pointed out similarities between several works in "The Asia Series" and existing or even well-known photographs — for example, between a painting by Dylan depicting two men and an Henri Cartier-Bresson photograph of two men, one a eunuch who served in the court of the Dowager Empress Tzu Hsi.

Observers have pointed out that a painting by Dylan called "Opium," which is



A painting by musician Bob Dylan, entitled "Trade," from 2009, which resembles a photograph by Henri Cartier-Bresson, on display at the Gagosian Gallery in New York, Sept. 27, 2011. Fans and Dylanologists are debating whether some of the paintings in "The Asia Series," exhibit are based on the singer's own experiences and observations, or on well-known photographs. (Marcus Yam/The New York Times)

used to illustrate a Web page for the "Asia Series" exhibition on the Gagosian site, appears to be closely modeled on a picture by Leon Busy, an early 20th-century photographer. Separately, Michael Gray, in a post on his blog, Bob Dylan Encyclopedia, points out that a painting by Dylan depicting three young men playing a sidewalk board game is nearly identical to a photograph taken by Dmitri Kessel.

Gray, an author who has written extensively about

Dylan's work and its artistic influences, writes on his blog:

"The most striking thing is that Dylan has not merely used a photograph to inspire a painting: He has taken the photographer's shot composition and copied it exactly. He hasn't painted the group from any kind of different angle, or changed what he puts along the top edge, or either side edge, or the bottom edge of the picture. He's replicated everything as closely as possible. □



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Jury in airline attack will see bomb model, videos



Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, the infamous "underwear bomber," in Milan, Mich. Jurors at the trial of the alleged al-Qaida terrorist will see a model of a bomb hidden in his underwear on a Detroit-bound jetliner and videos demonstrating the power of the explosive, a judge ruled Tuesday in a key victory for prosecutors. (AP Photo/U.S. Marshals Service, File)

ED WHITE

Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — Jurors at the trial of an alleged al-Qaida terrorist will see a model of a bomb hidden in his underwear on a Detroit-bound jetliner and videos demonstrating the power of the explosive, a judge ruled Tuesday in a key victory for prosecutors. Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, who is charged with trying to destroy the international flight on Christmas 2009, said the demonstrations would be unfair. He is acting as his own lawyer. U.S. District Judge Nancy Edmunds said the government has a right to present evidence that he willingly carried a bomb aboard the Northwest Airlines flight from Amsterdam. The flight had 279 passengers and 11 crew members aboard. Edmunds also said jury selection will start next Tues-

day with 80 people culled from a group of more than 200. Many were eliminated because of work, vacation, school, even a pending kidney donation, while others were excused for having strong feelings about Abdulmutallab, a 24-year-old from Nigeria.

One woman wrote that she feared "crazy relatives of the defendant waiting in the shadows," Edmunds said. "I think we'll excuse her." At the trial, the government can display a model of the explosive discovered in Abdulmutallab's underwear, chiefly a plastic bag containing a powerful white powder known as PETN. Investigators recovered 76 grams (2.7 ounces) but say they believe he actually possessed 200 grams (7 ounces). The bomb didn't explode, but smoke filled the cabin, and Abdulmutallab's groin was badly burned by flames.

Prosecutors can also show video of what happens when 200 grams and 76 grams are detonated. Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Martin said the video would corroborate the testimony of passengers and help jurors understand a complicated issue. Abdulmutallab objected, saying it would be "very speculative" to make a link between what happened on Flight 253 and what was later demonstrated in a field. The judge, however, said an experiment in a plane actually would be very harmful to his defense. Edmunds said prosecutors could summon witnesses who are experts on al-Qaida and martyrdom and play an al-Qaida video that shows Abdulmutallab explaining his suicide mission. □

Romney, Perry, Paul GOP money men



Host Jon Stewart and Republican presidential candidate, U.S. Rep. Ron Paul of Texas, appear on set during Comedy Central's "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" New York City. — Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, Texas Gov. Rick Perry and U.S. Rep. Ron Paul have banked millions of dollars for their campaigns for the Republican presidential nomination to run against President Barack Obama. (AP Photo/PictureGroup, Ronald Smits)

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, Texas Gov. Rick Perry and U.S. Rep. Ron Paul have banked millions of dollars for their campaigns for the Republican presidential nomination to run against President Barack Obama.

But the other Republicans are struggling or broke, putting their candidacies in question four months before the first state nominating contests take place.

Ahead of a critical fundraising reporting deadline on Friday, all of the party's contenders, regardless of the level of their financial health, are furiously courting donors.

It is a last-minute attempt to pick up cash before they file a three-month summary that will measure one aspect of the financial strength of their campaigns.

"With the support of people like you, we will be able to get America back to work again," Romney wrote to his email list Tuesday while he personally pressed donors in New York for contributions.

The candidates' own cash is just part of the picture because, this year, outside groups are allowed to raise and spend unlimited amounts of money to back specific candidates. □

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Bosnian culture mainstreamed in St. Louis

JOHN T. EDGE

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ST. LOUIS – At A&M Bakery, the Grabic family bakes French baguettes that are popular with Vietnamese immigrants. They braid challah for Jewish customers. Senad Grabic learned to bake rye in Germany after he fled his Bosnian home in 1992 as Serbian troops slaughtered thousands of his Muslim countrymen after the breakup of Yugoslavia. The round yeasty bread that fills the shelves at A&M is a taste of what he left behind.

He calls it by its Bosnian name, lepinja.

But his daughter Mirela, 22, simply calls it white bread.

"We try to keep it neutral," said Grabic, who like many refugees and children of refugees here, lives with the specter of the war but does not want to be defined by it. "We're internationalists." Nearly two decades after the Grabics and other refugees first began to arrive in St. Louis, more Bosnians live here (60,000 in all) than anywhere else outside Bosnia and Herzegovina, according to the International Institute of St. Louis. During the 1990s, when the city's population declined more than 10 percent, Bosnians reinvigorated neighborhoods around the Bevo Mill, an earlier locus of German immigrants.

In time, they opened insurance agencies, foot reflexology clinics and truck-driving schools. They now operate coffee shops like Cafe Milano, where coconut-topped desserts and cigarettes are popular indulgences. They run butcher shops like South City Meat and Deli, where the cases are stacked with veal sausages and lamb

shoulders. They now perform in hip-hop bands like South Side Bosanci and publish a nationally distributed weekly newspaper, often called the Bosnian New York Times.

Like many immigrants, people of Bosnian ancestry here negotiate a balance between conserving the

"Now," he said, "we run an American-sounding restaurant."

Imamovic, like other proprietors, forgoes overt Bosnian trappings. Some restaurants display statuettes of chefs in poofy toques who look blandly continental. His family chose "Company"

because they believed there were enough jobs, economical housing and earlier arrivals who spoke the refugees' language. (It was not a deciding factor, but it must have seemed fortuitous that the fleur-de-lis is a symbol of St. Louis and Bosnia.)

The refugees were



Bosnian soccer fans cheer on their team as they watch the start of a qualifier game for the European Cup, at Cafe Milano, in St. Louis. In St. Louis, Bosnian immigrants negotiate a balance between conserving the ways of their homeland, and assimilating into American culture.

(Jennifer Silverberg/The New York Times)

ways of their homeland and assimilating. Those negotiations have sometimes been fraught, in part because most of them are Muslim.

"People were suspect of us," said Mirza Imamovic, who came here 13 years ago and now manages Gyro Company, his family's counter-service restaurant. "If they didn't know us, they thought we were some kind of radicals from the Middle East."

"They thought we ate crazy food, they thought we ate spicy curries," he said, while assembling gyros on halves of lepinja bread.

for the restaurant's name to sound capitalistic. To his young middle-class customers, he offers Mexican-bottled Coca-Cola and sriracha sauce, products popularized by new immigrants and now adopted by the U.S. mainstream.

"We don't push it," he said. "We're going after an American market and trying to preserve some of our identity, too."

The International Institute of St. Louis, in concert with the refugee bureau of the State Department, designated the city as a Bosnian resettlement center

welcomed by Bosnians like Sulejman Grbic, who came to St. Louis in 1974, and his wife, Ermina Grbic, who came here in 1981. Before they opened Grbic Restaurant and Banquet Center in 2002, they had already distinguished themselves as community organizers.

"We were like a Red Cross," Ermina Grbic said as she and her son Ermin Grbic served an early lunch of trahana, a tomato-based soup with spaetzle-like dumplings, and sarma, a beef- and rice-stuffed cabbage roll smothered in tomato sauce. □



Bosnian soccer fans cheer on their team as they watch the start of a qualifier game for the European Cup, at Cafe Milano, in St. Louis. In St. Louis, Bosnian immigrants negotiate a balance between conserving the ways of their homeland, and assimilating into American culture.

(Jennifer Silverberg/The New York Times)

Bosnian culture mainstreamed in St. Louis

JOHN T. EDGE

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ST. LOUIS – At A&M Bakery, the Grabic family bakes French baguettes that are popular with Vietnamese immigrants. They braid challah for Jewish customers.


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Longtime fugitive US hijacker caught in Portugal

SAMANTHA HENRY
Associated Press
NEWARK, New Jersey (AP)

— A 1970s militant who escaped from a murder sentence in New Jersey and carried out one of the most brazen hijackings in U.S. history was captured in Portugal after more than 40 years as a fugitive when the case suddenly unraveled after police matched his fingerprint to a resident ID card, authorities said Tuesday. George Wright, 68, was arrested Monday by Portuguese authorities in a town near Lisbon at the request of the U.S. government, said a member of the fugitive task force that had been searching for him for nearly a decade.

Wright was convicted of the 1962 murder of a gas station owner in Wall, New Jersey. Authorities say Wright and three associates had already committed multiple armed robberies on Nov. 23, 1962, when he and another man shot and killed Walter Patterson, a decorated World War II veteran and father of two, during a robbery of the Collingswood Esso gas station in Wall. Wright received a 15- to 30-year sentence and had served eight years when he and three other men escaped from the Bayside State Prison farm in Leesburg, New Jersey, on Aug. 19, 1970.

The FBI said Wright then became affiliated with an underground militant group, the Black Liberation Army, and lived in a "communal family" with several of its members in Detroit.

On July 31, 1972, Wright,

dressed as a priest and using the alias the Rev. L. Burgess, hijacked a Delta Air Lines flight from Detroit to Miami accompanied by three men, two men and three small children from his communal group, including Wright's companion and their 2-year-old daughter, according to Associated Press reports at the time. When the plane landed at the Miami airport, the hijackers demanded a \$1 million ransom — the highest of its kind at the time — to free the 86 people on board. □

This arrest photo taken Feb. 15, 1963 and provided by the New Jersey Department of Corrections shows George Wright while in custody for the 1962 murder of a gas station owner in Wall, N.J. Wright was arrested Sept. 26, 2011, by Portuguese authorities at the request of the U.S. government after more than 40 years as a fugitive, authorities said Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2011. The FBI says Wright, who escaped the Bayside State Prison in Leesburg, N.J., in 1970, became affiliated with the Black Liberation Army and in 1972 he and his associates hijacked a Delta flight from Detroit to Miami. After releasing the passengers in exchange for a \$1 million ransom, the hijackers forced the plane to fly to Boston, then on to Algeria. (AP Photo)





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As Tripoli settles,

Libyan official delivers \$16M to southern city

**BEN HUBBARD
RAMI AL-SHAHEIBI
Associated Press**

SABHA, Libya (AP) — Libya's transitional government delivered 20 million dinars (\$16 million) Tuesday to this remote southern city beset by fighters loyal to Moammar Gadhafi, hoping to bolster support for revolutionary forces.

Journalists accompanied the oil and finance minister, Ali al-Tarhouni, and the cash on the first flight to touch down in the desert city of Sabha since a NATO enforced no-fly zone order in March. The 20 boxes of 20-dinar notes, each weighing 116 pounds (78 kilograms), were delivered to the Sabha central bank. Revolutionary forces have gained control of much of the area but still face heavy resistance.

"The forces inside these areas are not opposed to joining us but they do not want to disarm," said

Ahmed Bashir, spokesman for Libya's National Transitional Council in Sabha. "They have the weapons and no manpower. We have the manpower and



Musaddek Ismail, 49, businessman, reads on the beach in Tripoli, Libya, Monday, Sept. 26, 2011.
(AP Photo/Alexandre Meneghini)

lighter weapons."

More than a month after sweeping into Tripoli and ending Gadhafi's nearly 42-year rule, the fugitive leader's supporters are still putting up a fierce fight on

three fronts: in Gadhafi's hometown of Sirte, the town of Bani Walid southeast of the capital and in pockets in the country's vast desert south, including Sabha.

Most of the recent fighting has occurred in Bani Walid and the Mediterranean coastal city of Sirte.

Gadhafi's whereabouts are unknown, although he has exhorted his supporters to

fight on several times in audio messages.

Syrian-based Al-Rai TV, which has become the former regime's mouthpiece, aired video of Gadhafi's son, Seif al-Islam, and it said it was taken last week. The same video, however, appears to have been uploaded to YouTube on March 6. A second YouTube video appears to show the same event with an upload date of Feb. 27, early on in the uprising.

Seif al-Islam Gadhafi's last known public appearance was on Aug. 23 in Tripoli. Many have speculated that he is hiding in Bani Walid. Like his father, he has been charged by the International Criminal Court with crimes against humanity for the regime's bloody efforts to repress the uprising.

In Sabha, revolutionaries are based in the city's largest neighborhood, al-

Gurtha. They have set up a national council office and checkpoints on roads leading to areas where Gadhafi loyalists refuse to hand over their weapons. Residents are able to cross checkpoints into Gadhafi loyalist-held areas, but only if they have family inside, and even then they risk being accused of being Gadhafi supporters.

Bashir said the area has no Gadhafi brigades, but there are worries that armed Gadhafi loyalists may ambush revolutionary forces from the desert. In Sirte, commanders said Libyan revolutionary forces battled their way into the eastern outskirts in a bid to link up with anti-Gadhafi fighters besieging the city from the west. Anti-Gadhafi forces first attacked Sirte nearly two weeks ago, but have pulled back in the face of heavy rocket fire and loyalist snipers. □

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Top Bolivian official quits over backlash



Bolivia's Interior Minister Sacha Llorenti speaks during a press conference where he announced his resignation at the government palace in La Paz, Bolivia, Tuesday Sept. 27, 2011. Llorenti has resigned over a police crackdown on marchers opposed to a jungle highway that they say would despoil an indigenous preserve. (AP Photo/Juan Karita)

PAOLA FLORES
Associated Press

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AP) — Bolivia's interior minister and his deputy resigned Tuesday after mounting recriminations over a violent police crackdown on marchers opposed to a jungle highway that they say would despoil an indigenous preserve. Interior Minister Sacha Llorenti became the second Cabinet member to step down over the weekend action, which backfired as angry crowds pressured police into releasing the hundreds of protesters they had detained. Defense Minister Cecilia Chacon resigned in protest immediately after Sunday's crackdown by about 500 police officers who fired tear gas and wielded clubs in the eastern lowlands. The backlash is a major setback for President Evo Morales, who by stubbornly insisting on the 190-mile (300-kilometer) jungle highway had alienated many of his indigenous core supporters in this poor,

landlocked nation where more than two in three people are members of indigenous groups. Morales announced Monday that he was suspending the Brazil-funded highway and leaving it to voters in the two affected regions to decide its fate. Llorenti had initially defended the crackdown and denied excessive force was used. But before resigning on Tuesday he said neither he nor Morales had ordered the police against the marchers. He blamed Deputy Minister Marcos Farfan, who resigned to take responsibility but also denied ordering the police action. The director of Bolivia's migration agency, Maria Rene Quiroga, resigned Tuesday to protest the breakup of the march by some 1,000 people who departed the provincial capital of Trinidad in mid-August on foot bound for the highlands capital of La Paz. □

Italian lawyer: Knox is no 'femme fatale'



Amanda Knox, center, arrives at the Perugia court, Italy, Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2011. Italian lawyers have described Amanda Knox, the American student convicted of killing her British roommate, as a "she-devil" and a "witch" in an appeals court while calling her alleged victim a "beautiful girl in the prime of her life". The court also saw gruesome photos of the semi-naked, bloodied body of Meredith Kercher on Monday as two lawyers made closing arguments at the appeals trial of Knox and Raffaele Sollecito, her co-defendant and former boyfriend.

ALESSANDRA RIZZO
Associated Press

PERUGIA, Italy (AP) — A defense lawyer has told an Italian court that Amanda Knox, the American student convicted of killing her roommate, isn't a manipulating, sex-obsessed "femme fatale" as her accusers charge, but is rather like Jessica Rabbit — just drawn that way. In closing arguments before an appeals court on Tuesday, lawyer Giulia Bongiorno compared Knox to the cartoon character, contending that Knox had been unfairly portrayed over the course of the media-hyped, four-year case. She said the 24-year-old American is instead a loving young woman who

simply displayed immaturity and naivete at the time of the 2007 slaying. Knox was convicted of sexually assaulting and murdering Meredith Kercher, a British student in Perugia, and sentenced to 26 years in prison. Co-defendant Raffaele Sollecito, an Italian who was Knox's boyfriend at the time of the crime, was convicted of the same charges and sentenced to 25 years. They both deny wrongdoing and have appealed their 2009 convictions. A verdict in the appeals case is expected within a week — possibly as early as Saturday. On Tuesday, Bongiorno likened Knox to the voluptuous character in the "Who Framed Roger Rab-

(AP Photo/Stefano Medici)
bit" film. "Jessica Rabbit looks like a man-eater, but she is a faithful and loving woman," Bongiorno said. Paraphrasing a famous line from the movie, Bongiorno said Knox "is not bad, she's just drawn that way." Bongiorno is Sollecito's lawyer, but, with the fates of the two defendants intertwined, she discussed Knox's role in the case at length. By the media as well as in court, Knox has either been described either as a manipulative "she-devil" or as an innocent girl caught in a judicial inferno in a foreign land. Bongiorno said she was really an immature girl who had just started dating Sollecito. □

Iraq-US training deal likely

EDITH M. LEDERER

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) —

With a year-end deadline for the pullout of U.S. troops looming, Iraq's foreign minister said Tuesday he believes there will be an agreement with the United States to train his country's military and talks are already under way in Baghdad.

"We're looking for October for these talks to move forward," Hoshyar Zebari said in an Associated Press interview.

The Obama administration is considering 3,000 to 5,000 troops for an Iraqi training mission, according to Washington officials familiar with the discussions who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to release the information. One Iraqi lawmaker close to Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue, said Baghdad may ask only for about 2,500 forces.

"I think we will get an agreement on training," Zebari said, but he would not discuss numbers and stressed that training could take place both outside and inside Iraq.

"How many trainers will remain in Iraq is not that important," he said. "It's the commitment that is very important."



Iraqi students queue to enter a classroom at a primary school during the first day of school in Baghdad, Iraq, Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2011. With a year-end deadline for the pull-out of U.S. troops looming, Iraq's foreign minister said Tuesday he believes there will be an agreement with the United States to train his country's military and talks are already under way in Baghdad.

(AP Photo/Karim Kadim)

Regardless, Zebari said, there will be no new status of forces or security agreement with the Americans. "The political conditions in Iraq have changed. That's why it's difficult," he said. Any move that leaves U.S. forces in the country past the end of the year has been vigorously opposed by anti-American Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, whose Mahdi Army militia was responsible for much of the violence in the country when it was consumed in a near civil war in 2005 and 2006. Al-Sadr has threatened a resumption of violence if the U.S. troops re-

main into 2012.

"We reject even the staying of trainers," Sadrist lawmaker Mushraq Naji said last week. "Our stance is clear and that all U.S. troops should leave. Negotiations to keep them here run against the will of the Iraqi people."

Zebari said the government has support from most political leaders for the talks with the Americans on training mission arrangements because the country doesn't have the military expertise to protect its shores and oil terminals, control its airspace and air defenses, "and even the land forces

need" training.

But he said the government must line up support in parliament for the training mission, as it did to win approval for the current U.S. status of forces agreement. The foreign minister was interviewed hours after officials in Baghdad announced that Iraq had signed an estimated \$3 billion deal to buy 18 fighter jets from the United States. The F-16s aren't expected to arrive in Iraq until next fall at the earliest, and more likely not until 2013 which means U.S. forces could still be asked to patrol the country's skies. □

Myanmar promises prisoner amnesty

M. PENNINGTON

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Military-dominated Myanmar says its recent democratic reforms are irreversible and has promised a prisoner amnesty in the near future. Foreign Minister Wanna Maung Lwin told the U.N. General Assembly on Tuesday that talks last month between Myanmar's president and democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi were intended to put aside differences and find common grounds to cooperate. The minister urged nations to lift economic sanctions. In November Myanmar held its first elections in 20 years. The new government is nominally civilian but remains dominated by the military, which has ruled since 1962.

Western nations are urging Myanmar to free its more than 2,000 political prisoners and reconcile with Suu Kyi, whose party won 1990 elections but was barred from taking power. The party boycotted the November poll, saying the rules governing it were unfair.

"We hope the near future will come very soon," said British Ambassador to the U.N. Mark Lyall Grant, after a meeting later Tuesday of the so-called Friends of Myanmar, a group of about 15 interested Western and Asian nations. □

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As thousands flee jobs in Libya, Niger feels impact

ADAM NOSSITER

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NIAMEY, Niger – For tens of thousands of people from Niger, the downfall of Moammar Gadhafi has been an economic catastrophe, plunging them suddenly from a world of good pay in Libya back into the precarious universe of their home country, one of the poorest and most dependent nations on earth. More than 200,000 Nigeriens have fled the fighting since March, according to the government here, laboriously traversing the desert from Libya, where they were earning unheard-of sums, by local standards, as tailors, security guards, cooks and drivers.

A majority of those who fled are now destitute, hungry and, along with the thousands of families dependent on remittances from Libya, without prospects. Niger officials estimate that at least 200 people continue to arrive daily, and probably more come through the porous desert border crossings.

The government admits it does not have the resources to help them and is pleading with outside donors for help, as it did when a smattering of Gadhafi loyalists crossed into Niger as well.

By June, the forced migration had knocked an \$80 million hole in Niger's economy, the government here said. That figure has since grown, and it is disastrous in a country where the World Bank says more than 60 percent of people live

in extreme poverty, where famine lurks when rains do not arrive and where half the national budget has in previous years come from donors.

Suddenly, the migrants who had supplied Libya's labor – and along the way took a step into the world of paid holidays, overtime and company cars – find themselves thrust into a domain where limble beggars congregate at intersections and food is sold from crude tin-roof shacks. The transition, after a grueling and sometimes lethal monthlong trip across the broiling Sahara, has been painful.

For the chance to earn salaries 10 times as high as in Niger, persecution and prejudice in an Arab-dominated country where Africans were treated as



Migrant workers from Niger, some of whom were injured when they came under artillery fire from Gadhafi loyalists, line up to be evacuated on the chartered Red Star I ship, at the port in Misrata, Libya. Thousands of Nigeriens who fled good jobs in Libya are now destitute, hungry, and, along with many families, dependent on remittances, without prospects.

(Bryan Denton/The New York Times)

second-class citizens were worth putting up with.

"That life there is something that you can't have here in Niger," said Abubakar Hassan, who worked as a

excellent."

Two perished on the truck jammed sky-high with bags and passengers that carried Hassan and others out of Libya and through the hot sands. "Thirty days of misery," he said, recounting the thirst, hunger, heat and destitution.

He was wearing a well-cut black shirt with the word "Armani" embroidered on it. Like dozens of others at a help center at the edge of Niamey, Niger's mud-brick capital city, he has been without work for over five months.

The mood at the center was one of despair.

"To have work is the dream of everyone here," he said, looking around the stifling room into which the men had crowded to receive counseling. □

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COLOMBIANA daily: 4:00 - 6:30 - 9:00 matinee: 1:30 late show: 11:30 PG-13	COLOMBIANA daily: 9:30 matinee: 12:00 late show: 11:30 PG-13
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Paris fashion week off to picture-perfect start



A model wears a creation by Portuguese fashion designer Luis Buchinho for his spring-summer 2012 ready to wear collection presented Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2011, in Paris. (AP Photo/Laurent Cipriani)

JENNY BARCHFIELD
AP Fashion Writer
PARIS (AP) — It would have been impossible to plan a more picture-postcard perfect start to Paris fashion week than Portuguese designer Fatima Lopes' spring-summer 2012 ready-to-

wear display Tuesday atop the Eiffel Tower, where the clothes fought for the audience's attention with a breathtaking view of the City of Light. Sure, the venue presented a unique set of challenges: Ushering hundreds

of fashionistas perched atop vertiginous heels and sewn into hobblingly narrow skirts into any old building is difficult enough under the best of circumstances. Whisking them hundreds of yards (meters) into the air atop one of the world's



A model wears a creation by Portuguese fashion designer Luis Buchinho for his spring-summer 2012 ready to wear collection presented Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2011, in Paris. (AP Photo/Laurent Cipriani)

most frequented tourist sites aboard achingly slow turn-of-the-century elevators is another problem altogether. But even though they

drenched collection of ultra-minidresses aimed at a very specific demographic: jet-set party girls with endless legs. Paris fashion week ratchets



A model wear a creation for Commuun's spring-summer 2012 ready to wear collection presented Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2011 in Paris.

(AP Photo/Jacques Brinon)

had to rub shoulders with the touristus vulgaris and dodge packs of souvenir sellers who proved even more pesky than the paparazzi, fashion insiders were tickled by the Lopes display — the first fashion show anyone could remember atop the Eiffel Tower. Day one of Paris' marathon nine-day-long collections is generally dominated by up-and-coming labels, and Tuesday was no exception. The French fashion world's latest darling, Belgian designer Anthony Vaccarello, was the sartorial high point of the day, with his sex-

it up a gear on Wednesday, with displays by another Belgian critical darling, Dries Van Noten, and British bad boy Gareth Pugh.

ANTHONY VACCARELLO

Vaccarello won one of the French fashion world's top prizes — this year's ANDAM award — and the feeling that this young Belgian-born designer has friends in high places was faintly palpable at the show: On a day dominated by small houses of limited means, Vaccarello's display stood out for its high production value and cast of coveted top models. □



The 5th International Piano Festival plays on



ORANJESTAD - This year, the International Piano Festival has reached a historical benchmark. To celebrate the first "Lustrum of Musical Excellence," the 2011 Festival will present the most expansive and varied program in our history, with solo performances, chamber ensembles and concerti. Our array of world-class artists includes the violinist Alissa Margulis, rising star Tian Lu, classical guitarist Marlon Titre and maestro Harold Martina. The Festival is being held from September 25 to October 1 and Tickets are available at Da Vinci Academy (588.9926) and Plaza Bookshop (582.1821). □



The only Dutch Bar 'Nederlands Koninkrijk' on CNN's world list

CNN chooses MooMba Beach as one of the best beach bars in the world

PALM BEACH - Anyone can stick up a shack on the sand, stock it with beers and call it a beach bar, but MooMba Beach Bar was chosen as the best by CNN.

But what makes a great beach bar? It could be the sand-in-your-toes factor, or the washing and hissing of the waves nearby, or the sunsets or the people you meet.

But the truth is there's no formula, no magic ingredients that will guarantee a place in a list of the world's best beach bars.

CNN has included spots that range from the chic and the elite with smooth lines and mesmerizing cocktail waiters, to the haphazard, thrown-together shacks constructed from scavenged driftwood.

The only thing these places have in common is that once you've been, you inevitably start planning to get back there someday, somehow. □



Aruhiba, The 1 and Only Homemade Aruban Cigar



ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The process took ten years. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar box is



specially designed for the cigars with the logo "Aruhiba". Petrocchi considers Aruhiba a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars.

The company sells International cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five cigars and you will get 1 FREE cigar of \$35. Located at the Historic Dutch Windmill. Open from Monday to Saturday from 9am till

8:30pm. And open on Sunday from 9am to 1pm. Aruhiba is only available in above mentioned stores.

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"FAVI FUNDACION CU VISION"

Kiwanis party a big success with Arion Wine Company's Entwine and Obikwa

ORANJESTAD - Amidst the fabulously dressed, happily dancing guests at the fundraising Kiwanis Wine & Cheese party at the Westin Resort last Saturday evening, two newcomers stood out at the Arion Wine Company booth: the new, exciting Entwine wine label was introduced and the Obikwa wines from South

pair, and that is what Entwine wines are all about: a coming together of perfectly balanced flavors in a marriage between one of America's oldest wineries and a trusted name in food: Wente Vineyards and Food Network. The Wente-styled Entwine Pinot Grigio, Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon are now available



A big hit with wine lovers!

Obikwa is easily recognizable: the stylized ostrich guarantees a great glass of wine, which suits every personality and palate.

Thirsty dancers flocked to the wine stands in the Westin Ballroom to sample and savor until the wee hours of the night. □



Africa were in the spotlight. Arion's owner Govert van der Hout and his expert team were at hand to pour and give information about these intriguing newcomers on the block.

As the swinging salsa tunes of Robert Jeand'or and his Solo Banda Show were warming up the Westin Ballroom, Mr. van der Hout explained the ins and outs of his two new wines. "Entwine means to come together, to match or to

at Ling & Sons." Mr. van der Hout is very pleased with the cooperation between the two giants as they have produced truly impressive wines at affordable prices. Eco-friendly Obikwa from South Africa is the first wine of that continent to switch to 350 gram, ultra light-weight green bottles. This new winery, established in 2002, has been a success story from the start: its wines are now available in 43 countries already!



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Aquarius Restaurant receives a visit from former Miss Venezuela



ORANJESTAD – Ms. Mariángel Ruiz Torrealba and her family recently visited Aquarius Restaurant to enjoy the lunch buffet. For those who are not familiar with Mariángel Ruiz Torrealba; she was crowned

as Miss Venezuela in 2002 and therefore got the opportunity to participate in the Miss Universe pageant where she was elected as the second runner up in 2003. Mariángel Ruiz Torrealba also has her ca-

reer as TV host for different programs, main actress of soap opera "La viuda joven" and model.

In family ambiance, Mariángel Ruiz Torrealba and her family enjoyed the exquisite dishes filled with

delicious and unique flavors.

"We offer a culinary experience that is different from all others combined with good service and a unique atmosphere. We are very proud and honored to

serve Mariángel Ruiz Torrealba and her family and share with them what we call The Aquarius Experience" this according to Mrs. Zegheila Lindeborg marketing executive of Renaissance Aruba. □

Casa del Mar honors guests



ORANJESTAD - Mr. and Mrs. George and Hedwig Chesna were recently honored as Goodwill Ambassadors due to their 25th consecutive visit to Aruba. Ms. Marouska Heyliger representing the Aruba Tourism Authority conducted the ceremony held at the Casa Del Mar Beach Resort. According to the couple, the main reason they return is the wonderful people, great weather and tasty food. □



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Astros keep Cards out of wild-card tie

St. Louis Cardinals left fielder Matt Holliday runs toward the dugout after the final out of the seventh inning of a baseball game as the final score of the Philadelphia Phillies and Atlanta Braves game is posted on the scoreboard, Monday, Sept. 26, 2011, in Houston.

Associated Press
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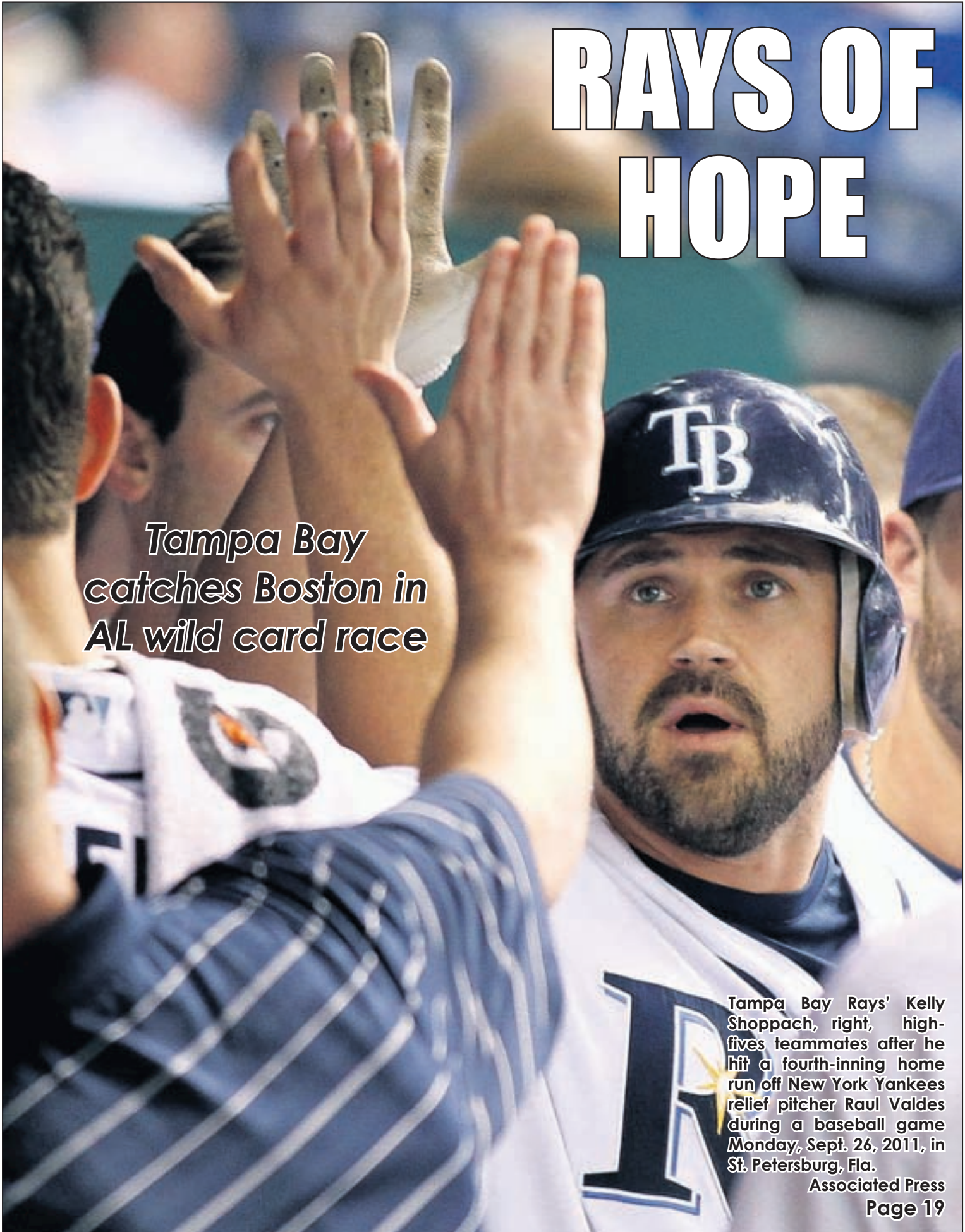


NFL Roundup Romo, Bailey lead Cowboys past Redskins

By JAIME ARON
AP Pro Football Writer
ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)

— Tony Romo's broken rib hurt so much he needed a second pain-killing injection. His center had a tendency to snap the ball too soon or to the wrong spot. And he couldn't get into the end zone no matter what, not even with a first down on the 2-yard line. Yet Romo and the Dallas Cowboys did the only thing that mattered. They won. Dan Bailey kicked six field goals, including a go-ahead 40-yarder with 1:52 left, and linebacker Anthony Spencer forced a fumble that teammate Sean Lee recovered with 28 seconds left, giving the Cowboys an 18-16 victory over the Washington Redskins on Monday night. "It feels good right now because we won," Romo said, smiling and wincing. "I'll be all right." Romo was 22 of 36 for 255 yards. His best stat was simply lasting all four quarters.

Continued on page 21



RAYS OF HOPE

Tampa Bay catches Boston in AL wild card race

Tampa Bay Rays' Kelly Shoppach, right, high-fives teammates after he hit a fourth-inning home run off New York Yankees relief pitcher Raul Valdes during a baseball game Monday, Sept. 26, 2011, in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Associated Press
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Bill Haas selected to Presidents Cup team

DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

Bill Haas got another big payoff Tuesday when he was picked for the U.S. team at the Presidents Cup.

U.S. captain Fred Couples used his two picks Tuesday on Tiger Woods and Haas, who won a sudden-death playoff to claim the Tour Championship for his first win of the year.

Couples took Haas, the son of vice captain Jay Haas, over Keegan Bradley, whose two wins this year include the PGA Championship.

International captain Greg Norman took Robert Allenby and Aaron Baddeley, both of whom grew up in Melbourne.

He said Allenby was an "automatic pick" because of his longtime success at Royal Melbourne, while Baddeley made it an easier choice when he tied for third at the Tour Championship.

"Bill Haas knew he had to win last week, and he did it," Couples said. "I could not leave him off the team after that. When a guy knows that second place ... and he'll tell you, second place isn't good enough. And he understood that."

He said if Haas had lost the playoff at East Lake and Bradley had finished fourth or fifth — he wound up tied for 11th — then Bradley would have been the pick.

would be only one open spot after qualifying ended. Woods, who missed most of the summer with left leg injuries, did not return un-



Bill Haas holds the FedEx Cup and the Tour Championship trophy after defeating Hunter Mahan in three playoff holes at East Lake Golf Club in Atlanta on Sunday, Sept. 25, 2011.

Associated Press.

Couples said if Steve Stricker cannot play because of an injury, then Bradley would be chosen to replace him. Stricker had an MRI scan on Tuesday because of weakness in his left arm, although results were not immediately disclosed.

Woods was announced as a pick five weeks ago. Couples thought it was important to let the rest of the Americans know there

til August and played only two tournaments, missing the cut in the PGA Championship.

He is playing next week at the Frys.com Open, and will play in the Australian Open the week before the matches.

The Presidents Cup is Nov. 17-20 at Royal Melbourne. "Things are going great," Woods said. "We're practicing very hard up at The Medalist, and I'm playing

as much as I possibly can, something that I hadn't done all summer because I hadn't been cleared to do it.

"I'm really looking forward to getting my game rounded for The Presidents Cup." Couples also considered Brandt Snedeker, who finished 11th in the U.S. standings.

"Congrats to bill haas/(at) tigerwoods. They deserve the picks. Although I'm very disappointed, I've very happy to have been considered. GO USA," Bradley said on Twitter.

Bradley becomes the first American to win a major and be left off a team in the same year since British Open champion Todd Hamilton was not chosen for the 2004 Ryder Cup team.

For the Presidents Cup, Ben Curtis (British Open) and Shaun Micheel (PGA) were left off the 2003 team. That was their only win that year. Bradley, a 25-year-old rookie, also won the Byron Nelson Championship.

Couples said he spoke to Bradley for 45 minutes on the phone to explain his decision.

"I'm not one to say, 'Hey, you're going to be on plenty of team.' I wouldn't want

to hear that," Couples said. "I know he's a young player.

I laid it out on the line and told him for really three or four weeks now where everyone stood.

"I just felt like in this instance, Bill Haas has played two years, never been outside the top 12 position."

Haas has won three times over the past two years.

The rest of the American team that qualified two weeks ago were Stricker, Matt Kuchar, Dustin Johnson, Bubba Watson, Nick Watney,

Hunter Mahan, Phil Mickelson, Jim Furyk, Webb Simpson and David Toms.

It will be the first team competition for Haas, Watney and Simpson.

Allenby and Baddeley give the International team — comprised of players from everywhere but the United States and Europe — five Australians for the matches at Royal Melbourne. It's the fifth time since the Presidents Cup began that the International side has had five Aussies.

Allenby missed the '98 matches at Royal Melbourne because he was just recovering from a near-fatal car accident and did not qualify. □



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Rays beat Yankees, move into wild-card tie

AL Roundup

ST. PETERSBURG, Florida

(AP) — The Tampa Bay Rays moved level with the Boston Red Sox for the wild-card lead, beating the New York Yankees 5-2 on Monday behind another strong performance by James Shields.

Shields came within one out of his 12th complete game, yielding six hits. Kyle Farnsworth finished for his 24th save, closing it out moments before the Red Sox lost 6-3 at Baltimore. The Rays and Red Sox each have two games left.

B.J. Upton drove in two runs with a third-inning double off Hector Noesi. Kelly Shoppach homered for the second straight day for the Rays, who've won three straight and are 15-8 since Sept. 2, when they trailed Boston by nine games. Johnny Damon's third-inning RBI single moved him into a tie with Lou Gehrig for 57th on the career hits list with 2,721.

Orioles 6, Red Sox 3

At Baltimore, the Boston Red Sox found another way to lose, this time on a broken-bat single and an inside-the-park home run, as their defeat against Baltimore dropped them into a tie in the AL wild-card race.

Boston's 17th loss in 22 games enabled Tampa Bay to finally pull even in the duel for the league's final playoff spot. The Rays,

who beat the New York Yankees 5-2, trailed by nine games after play on Sept. 3.

With the score 2-all in the sixth inning, Boston starter Josh Beckett (13-7) allowed four runs in an uprising that began with Vladimir Guerrero becoming the career hits leader among Dominican-born players.

Tigers 14, Indians 0

At Detroit, Doug Fister pitched eight strong innings and Alex Avila drove in three runs to help Detroit beat Cleveland.

Justin Verlander and Fister, who are scheduled to start the first two games of Detroit's first-round playoff series, are now a combined 14-0 with a 1.61 ERA in 16 appearances since August 16.

Fister, who allowed three singles while striking out nine, has been even better than the Cy Young favorite in the stretch, going 7-0 with a 0.65 ERA in his last eight outings. Fister (11-13), who was picked up in a six-player deal with Seattle on July 30, has now gone 20 innings without walking a batter.

White Sox 4, Blue Jays 3

At Chicago, in what turned out to be manager Ozzie Guillen's last game with Chicago, Tyler Flowers hit a three-run home run and rookie Dylan Axelrod threw six shutout innings as Chicago beat Toronto.

Guillen was released from his contract after the game to pursue other opportu-

nities. He met with owner Jerry Reinsdorf for about 30 minutes earlier in the day. Guillen told the owner he would like to return, but only for a contract extension for more money. He had one year remaining on his current deal.

Axelrod (1-0) won his first big-league game, striking out six and holding Toronto to three hits. Sergio Santos picked up his 30th save. He allowed a two-run double to David Cooper in the ninth and walked Marcus Thames and Jose Bautista, but struck out Adam Lind with the bases loaded to end the game.

Rangers 4, Angels 3

At Anaheim, California, Adrian Beltre hit a two-run homer and Michael Young added an eighth-inning RBI single as Texas eliminated Los Angeles from the playoff race.



Elvis Andrus had four hits for the AL West champion Rangers (94-66), who have won eight of nine. Texas also stayed one game ahead of Detroit (93-67) for the league's second-best record and homefield advantage in this weekend's division series.

Peter Bourjos had a run-scoring single in the ninth for the Angels, who began the night three games behind the wild card-leading

Red Sox with three to play. Although Boston's woes have provided an opportunity, Los Angeles has fallen apart with seven losses in 11 games.

In other AL games it was Baltimore 6, Boston 3; Detroit 14, Cleveland 0; Tampa Bay 5, N.Y. Yankees 2; Kansas City 7, Minnesota 3; Chicago White Sox 4, Toronto 3; Texas 4, L.A. Angels 3; and Seattle 4, Oakland 2.

DomRep official: Leo Nunez will not face charge

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP)

— Authorities in the Dominican Republic say Florida Marlins closer Leo Nunez will not face charges for using false documents to sign a professional baseball contract. Central Electoral Commission President Roberto Rosario on Tuesday urged any athlete in a similar situation to contact authorities and help identify whoever provides false documents.



Dominican authorities detained Hector Pena Diaz last week.

He is suspected of falsifying Nunez's documents.

A person familiar with Nunez's immigration status told The Associated Press last week that his real name is Juan Carlos Oviedo and that he is 29,

a year older than listed in the team media guide. Nunez is on Major League Baseball's restricted list.

Braves' slide continues with 4-2 loss to Phillies

NL Roundup

ATLANTA (AP) — The Atlanta Braves squandered an early two-run lead against Cliff Lee as the playoff-bound Philadelphia Phillies rallied for a 4-2 victory Monday.

Lee (17-8) pitched six strong innings, Jimmy Rollins homered and Raul Ibanez drove in two runs, leading the NL East champions past their division rivals to start the final series of the regular season.

The Braves, who began the day with a one-game lead over St. Louis for the wild card, lost their third in a row and seventh in the last 10 games.

With one out in the sixth and the score tied 2-2, Shane Victorino tripled down the right-field line off Cristhian Martinez (1-3). Eric O'Flaherty replaced Martinez and the Braves pulled in the infield looking to cut off the go-ahead run. However, Ibanez grounded one sharply past diving first baseman Freddie Freeman, and Victorino scored the go-ahead run.

*Reds 6, Mets 5

At New York, Chris Heisey hit a go-ahead, three-run



Houston Astros' Clint Barmes (12) slides safely across home plate to score as St. Louis Cardinals first baseman Albert Pujols tries to tag him during the third inning of a baseball game, Monday, Sept. 26, 2011, in Houston.

homer just moments after making a diving catch as Cincinnati held off New York.

Jose Reyes had three hits for the Mets to take over the NL batting lead, but his baserunning blunder in the eighth inning cost them a chance to tie the game. Reyes lined an RBI double into the right-field corner to cut it to 6-5. Perhaps expecting a throw to the plate that would allow him to take third, Reyes took a wide turn around second — much too far. The Reds threw behind him and he

was easily tagged out.

Joey Votto and Jay Bruce singled off Tim Lincecum (2-1) in the seventh before Heisey hit the first pitch from Josh Stinson over the 16-foot fence in left field.

*Nationals 6, Marlins 4

At Miami, Michael Morse hit a three-run homer with two out in the ninth inning as Washington rallied past Florida.

The homer came off Edward Mujica (9-6), who was trying to earn the first save for the Marlins since closer Leo Nunez returned last week to his native Domini-

Associated Press
can Republic and admitted playing under an assumed name.

With two games remaining, the Nationals franchise (79-80) still has a chance at its first winning season since 2003.

Florida led 4-3 when pinch-hitter Laynce Nix and Ian Desmond started the ninth with singles.

*Astros 5, Cardinals 4, 10 innings

At Houston, Brian Bogusevic scored on Angel Sanchez's bunt in the 10th inning for Houston as St. Louis missed out on a chance to

join Atlanta atop the wild-card standings.

Slumping Atlanta lost to Philadelphia, but the Cardinals weren't able to take advantage of the opening. St. Louis rallied from three runs down to force extra innings, but Bogusevic doubled off Octavio Dotel (3-3) in the 10th and advanced on Jason Bourgeois' bunt. Sanchez then dropped a bunt in front of the plate, and Bogusevic charged home as Dotel mishandled his attempt to flip the ball to catcher Yadier Molina with his glove.

Pirates 9, Brewers 8

At Milwaukee, Alex Presley homered to lead off the game and drove in the go-ahead run in the seventh inning, helping Pittsburgh snap a 12-game skid in Milwaukee.

Presley finished 3 for 5 with three RBIs, reliever Daniel McCutchen (5-3) got the win and Joel Hanrahan held on for his 40th save to give Pittsburgh its fourth victory in 40 tries over the last five years at Miller Park. Milwaukee (94-66) is the best home team in the majors at 55-24, but failed in its first chance to tie the franchise's all-time mark for wins at 95.

Padres 2, Cubs 0

At San Diego, Mat Latos took a no-hitter into the sixth inning and struck out nine in seven innings to lead San Diego past Chicago.

It was a strong finish to an uneven season for Latos (9-14) who struggled during the first half. It was the 16th time in his last 17 starts that Latos allowed three or fewer runs. He allowed only two hits before Chad Qualls threw a perfect eighth and Heath Bell a perfect ninth for his 43rd save in 48 chances.

It was the 10th shutout for the Padres and the 10th time the Cubs were shut out.

Dodgers 4, Diamondbacks 2

At Phoenix, Matt Kemp hit a three-run homer and Dana Eveland pitched scoreless ball into the sixth inning as Los Angeles won its fourth straight.

Kirilenko eliminated Stosur from Pan Pacific Open

JACK GALLAGHER

Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Maria Kirilenko eliminated U.S. Open champion Samantha Stosur from the Pan Pacific Open on Tuesday, beating the Australian 6-2, 4-6, 6-4 in the second round.

The sixth-seeded Stosur, playing for the first time since winning her first career Grand Slam title in New York, trailed in the second set but rallied to break her Russian opponent and take the final two games to even the match.

The two traded breaks in the third set but Kirilenko broke again to make it 5-4 before serving out the match.

"You never want to go out in the first round after the week I had at the U.S. Open," Stosur said. "It's hard to explain how you could do well at the U.S. Open and then not do well here.

I came as prepared as I could."

Stosur beat Kirilenko in the fourth round of the U.S. Open.

"I just played her a couple of weeks ago, so I knew what to do," Kirilenko said. "Every time you win a Grand Slam, it's tough to win the next tournament."

Top-seeded Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark advanced despite being pushed by unseeded

Jarmila Gajdosova, eventually winning 6-1, 6-7 (4), 6-3 in the second round.

Third-seeded Victoria Azarenka of Belarus also advanced, beating Irina-Camelia Begu of Romania 6-1, 6-3. Azarenka, who has won two WTA Tour titles this season, saved nine break points and won 72 percent of her first serves.

Also, ninth-seeded Agnieszka Radwanska defeated qualifier Angelique Kerber of Germany 3-6, 6-3, 12th-seeded Ana Ivanovic of Serbia beat Laura Robson of Britain 7-5, 6-4, and 13th-seeded Julia Goerges of Germany eliminated Greta Arn of Hungary 6-2, 6-1.



Maria Kirilenko of Russia returns the ball to Samantha Stosur of Australia during their second round match of the Japan Pan Pacific Open tennis tournament in Tokyo, Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2011.

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NFL Roundup

Continued from Page 17

The fact that he needed a second injection could explain the quarter-sized blotch of blood that appeared on his jersey above his left hip during the game. After the game, he joked that his new bride forced him to play, saying, "I can't have a weak husband lying around the house."

"I want to play," Romo said. "We only get to go out and do this 16 times, 16 days out of 365 days a year. You want to be out there. You put so much effort, when you go, you go."

Romo was hardly hit in the first half, then the Redskins got in several crushing blows starting just after half-time.

That's also when the snaps became an issue. He couldn't hide his frustration with new center Phil Costa, and clearly wasn't happy with receiver Kevin Ogletree after an incompletion at the end of the drive that reached the 2; that failure forced Dallas to settle for its fifth field goal and a 16-15 deficit instead of a go-ahead touchdown.

Rob Ryan's re-energized Dallas defense got the ball back quickly, and Romo took advantage. Another bad snap left the Cowboys with a third-and-21, and Romo followed with a roll-out to his right and a deep pass to Dez Bryant for a 30-yard gain.

Another 15 yards were tacked on because of a facemask penalty on the beaten defender — cornerback DeAngelo Hall, who last week said he was hoping "to put my helmet on whatever's hurt" on Romo and all other wounded Cowboys.

Hall had plenty more to say after the game.

In an expletive-filled interview, he questioned the eight-man front on Bryant's catch and the official's decision to flag him.

"He's going to get demerit points for that call. Because that wasn't no facemask." When Washington quarterback Rex Grossman's fumble was recovered by Lee, Cowboys coach Jason Garrett dropped to a knee and pumped his fist wildly. He had good reason to celebrate: Dallas was about to be 2-1, guaranteeing no repeat of last year's miserable 1-7 start.

The Cowboys are even tied for first place in the NFC East, along with Washington (2-1), which was seeking its first 3-0 start since 2005. □



Players spill over after Dallas Cowboys' Gerald Sensabaugh blocked a field goal attempt by Washington Redskins kicker Graham Gano during the first half of an NFL football game Monday, Sept. 26, 2011, in Arlington, Texas. Washington holder Sav Rocca (6) and others scramble for the ball.

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Lawmakers: CDC to have student concussion protocol

By SAMANTHA HENRY

Associated Press

NUTLEY, N.J. (AP) — As awareness continues to grow about sports-related concussions among student athletes, two New Jersey lawmakers say it's time for schools to start following nationwide protocols governing such injuries.

U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez and Rep. Bill Pascrell announced Tuesday that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention agreed to study and develop national guidelines for managing sports-related concussions for student athletes.

Menendez and Pascrell, both New Jersey Democrats, had sponsored legislation, which passed the House but stalled in the Senate, that would have made such protocols mandatory. Several states, including New Jersey, have laws requiring a physician's approval for a student to return to sports, but Pascrell said there needs to be nationwide guidance for schools and youth sports programs to follow.

"The science may be changing, but that's no excuse for not establishing a protocol," Pascrell said, referring to differing scientific findings on concussions. "We're close to that for our soldiers, we need to be even closer for our children." Stressing that "every concussion is brain damage," Pascrell said 41

percent of student athletes who suffer concussions return to playing too soon, sometimes with serious or even fatal consequences. The CDC will convene a panel of experts to define the scope of the protocol, review existing literature, review the current state of sci-

entific research and develop new initiative on pediatric guidelines will work to improve diagnosis and management of brain injuries in younger children and teens who are injured on or off the playing field."

About a dozen states, including New Jersey, have rules related to concussions

ed. Young people, particularly girls, are more susceptible to long-term repercussions than adults.

Pascrell started pushing for legislation after the October 2008 death of Montclair High school football player Ryne Dougherty. Dougherty reportedly sat out three weeks after suffering a concussion but was cleared to return to playing after taking a test. He collapsed after making a tackle his first game back, and died after suffering a brain hemorrhage.

For years, the CDC has been working on the issue of sports-related concussions, and developed materials for coaches on steps to take if they think a student athlete suffered a concussion. Those steps include removing the athlete from the game or practice, and then having them evaluated by a health care professional with experience in concussions. The advice also suggests not returning the athlete to play until the health professional says it's OK, and telling the student's parents what happened. But Tuesday's announcement represents something broader. The CDC is putting together an expert panel to discuss possible pediatric guidelines for doctors on how to best diagnose and treat concussions that occur not only on the sports field but also from car accidents, falls and

other causes. That might include a look at the type of assessments currently used, although exactly what the panel will examine hasn't been decided.

The announcement was held at Nutley High School in New Jersey, where athletes say the school has adopted a strict policy in recent years on monitoring concussions.

Seventeen-year-old Andre Hamlin has been playing football since he was in the third grade. Now a senior on the football team, he said he's noticed a major change in recent years, with coaches making awareness and testing for concussions mandatory. Hamlin said all student athletes take a computerized "impact test" of word problems and other questions that test brain function and must be cleared by a doctor before starting any sport. He said awareness of concussions is now common and that coaches tell players how to avoid concussions by keeping their heads up during football plays. "It's something that's present throughout the season, our coach emphasizes it," Hamlin said. "If you see a player put their head down incorrectly it kind of gets your skin crawling, 'cause that's how you can get a concussion. We tell the younger kids: put your head up, and stay safe out there." □



U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez, right, stand next to U.S. Rep. Bill Pascrell, left, and football players from Nutley High School to announce that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will be developing national guidelines for managing sports-related concussions for student athletes, Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2011, in Nutley, N.J.

Associated Press

ence on concussions and have protocols ready for distribution by fall of 2014, according to Pascrell.

"Sports are a great way for kids and teens to stay healthy and this project will help us continue the important work in traumatic brain injuries in sports and other activities," said Dr. Linda C. Degutis of CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. "CDC's

and brain injuries among student athletes, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. Other states are considering similar measures. Concussions are caused by a blow that forces the head to move violently. They can affect memory, judgment, reflexes, speech, balance and muscle coordination and the symptoms become worse if not properly treat-

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Companies see opportunities thwarting cellphone hackers

CLAIRE CAIN MILLER

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SAN FRANCISCO — Hackers have broken into the cellphones of celebrities like Scarlett Johansson and Prince William. But what about the rest of us, who might not have particularly salacious photos or voice messages stored in our phones, but nonetheless have emails, credit card numbers and records of our locations?

A growing number of companies, including startups and big names in computer security like McAfee, Symantec, Sophos and AVG, see a business opportunity in mobile security — protecting cellphones from hacks and malware that could read text messages, store location information or add charges to mobile phone bills.

On Tuesday, McAfee introduced a service for consumers to protect their smartphones, tablets and computers at once, and last week the company introduced a mobile security system for businesses. Last month, AT&T partnered with Juniper Networks to build mobile security apps for consumers and businesses. The Defense Department has called for companies and universities to come up with ways to protect Android devices

from malware.

In an indication of investor interest, one startup, Lookout, last week raised \$40 million from venture capital firms, bringing its total to \$76.5 million. The company makes an app that scans other apps that people download to their phones, looking for malware and viruses. It tracks 700,000 mobile apps and updates Lookout whenever it finds a threat.

Experts in mobile security agree that mobile hackers are not yet much of a threat. But that is poised to change quickly, they say, especially as people increasingly use their phones to exchange money, by mobile shopping or using digital wallets like Google Wallet.

"Unlike PCs, the chance of running into something in the wild for your phone is quite low," said Charlie Miller, a researcher at Accuvant, a security consulting company, and a hacker who has revealed weaknesses in iPhones. "That's partly because it's more secure but mostly because the bad guys haven't gotten around to it yet. But the bad guys are going to slowly follow the money over to your phones." Most consumers, although they protect their computers, are unaware that

they need to secure their phones, he said, "but the smartphones people have are computers, and the same thing that can hap-



Engineers at the start-up Lookout, which makes an app that scans other apps that people download to their phones, looking for malware and viruses, in San Francisco, Sept. 15, 2011. Although attacks are few at the moment, software developers say it's only a matter of time before computer hackers follow the money to cellphones, and a growing number of companies see security as a business opportunity.

(Jim Wilson/The New York Times)

pen on your computer can happen on your phone." Cellphone users are more likely than computer users to click on dangerous links or download sketchy apps because they are often distracted, experts say. Phones can be more vulnerable because they connect to wireless networks at the gym or the coffee shop, and hackers can charge

consumers for a purchase. There have already been harmful attacks, most of which have originated in China, said John Hering,

applications, added malicious code and tricked users into downloading them from the Android Market. Google said 260,000 devices were attacked.

Also this year, people unwittingly downloaded other malware, called GG-Tracker, by clicking on links in ads, and on the website to which the links led. The malware signed them up, without their consent, for text message subscription services that charged \$10 to \$50.

Lookout says that up to 1 million people were afflicted by mobile malware in the first half of the year and that the threat for Android users is 2 1/2 times higher than it was just six months ago. Still, other experts caution that fear is profitable for the security industry and that consumers should be realistic about the small size of the threat at this point. AdaptiveMobile, which sells mobile security tools, found that 6 percent of smartphone users said they had received a virus, but that the actual number of confirmed viruses had not topped 2 percent. □

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Consumers' confidence remains weak in September

ANNE D'INNOCENZIO

AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Consumers' confidence remained weak in September after dropping to a post-recession low during the month before. That's left economists to wonder just what it'll take to get Americans feeling good about the economy again.

A survey of consumer confidence shows that Americans who were worried in August because of a downgrade of U.S. long-term debt, wild stock markets swings and other concerns, continue to be spooked. Economists say the problem is that not much has changed to make consumers feel financially secure. The stock market is still volatile. Worries about the global economy persist. And perhaps worst of all for confidence, U.S. jobs are still scarce.

"We are well below where we should be, and that's because the unemployment situation is so bad," said Paul Dales, senior U.S. economist at Capital Economics. "You have to have a huge fall in the unem-



This Sept. 2, 2011 file photo, shows a shopper reading a product label at Costco Wholesale in Mountain View, Calif.

ployment rate."

The Conference Board, a private research group, said Tuesday that its Consumer Confidence Index was at 45.4 in September. The number is slightly above the revised reading in August of 45.2, which was the lowest since April 2009. A reading of above 90 indicates the economy is on solid footing.

"The pessimism that shroud-

ed consumers last month has spilled over into September," said Lynn Franco, director of The Conference Board Consumer Research Center in a statement. Economists, which watch the index closely because consumer spending accounts for about 70 percent of U.S. economic activity, say it will take at least a year for consumers' confidence to significantly improve. The

Associated Press

problem, they say, is that consumers still feel like they're in a recession. It's not hard to see why consumers are freaked out about the U.S. economy. Net job creation came to a halt in August in the U.S. The unemployment rate was flat at 9.1 percent. Home prices remain weak. And consumers are facing higher prices for everything from food to clothing as retailers try to offset their rising costs for labor and materials.

Consumers also don't feel good about their prospects. Those claiming jobs are "hard to get" increased to 50.0 percent,

from 48.5 percent in The Conference Board's survey. And the proportion of consumers anticipating an increase in their income declined to 13.3 percent from 14.3 percent.

Franco, with The Conference Board, said that "does not bode well for spending."

Economists say sustained job growth — monthly job gains of at least 200,000 — will be the most critical component in raising consumers' confidence. A rallying stock market, rising home values and lower prices for gasoline, food and other things would also help lift shoppers' moods.

Some economic challenges are already starting to ease. For instance, gas prices, while higher than last year, are starting to come down.

Shoppers will also see prices on clothing and home furnishings start to come down by next spring, says Scott Wren, senior equity strategist for Wells Fargo Advisors. Stores had raised prices on average of about 10 percent as they tried to offset higher costs for labor and raw materials like cotton, but those cost pressures have started to dissipate in recent months.

"That will help confidence a little," Wren said.

Although the stock markets are still volatile, they are calming some. □

NY governor announces \$4.4B high-tech deal

MICHAEL VIRTANEN

Associated Press

ALBANY, New York (AP)

— A \$4.4 billion high-tech research project involving five global companies will create or retain 6,900 jobs statewide, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said Tuesday.

The effort involves Intel, IBM Corp., GlobalFoundries, the Taiwan semiconductor maker TSMC and Samsung. The companies plan to develop a next generation of computer chip technology to increase speed and capacity.

Facilities will be created or expanded at the nanotechnology center next to the state University at Albany and in Utica, East Fishkill, Canandaigua and Yorktown Heights.

Among the 6,900 jobs to be retained or created, 2,500 will be additional high-tech-

nology positions, Cuomo said, addressing economic development officials from across New York.

"This is a big deal," he said. The state is providing a matching investment of \$400 million in equipment and technology to the state university system over five years, Cuomo said.

John Kelly, senior vice president and director of research at IBM, said the New York-based company's investment in research and development will be \$3.6 billion.

The goal of the so-called Global 450 consortium is to produce the next generation of computer wafer, requiring the "unprecedented" cooperation of the five companies.

"This is really about what computing systems IBM and others will construct using advance technology,"



New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo and Former President Bill Clinton during a New York Open for Business Statewide Conference at the Empire State Plaza Convention Center in Albany, N.Y., Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2011

Associated Press

Kelly said. "Every billionth of a second, another calculation," he said, which he predicted will help doctors diagnose advanced diseases, help pharmaceutical companies develop new drugs and improve many aspects of life. □

SEC proposes changes in market halts

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — Federal regulators are considering changes in how stock exchanges cut off trading when there's a dramatic shift in the market's value.

The Securities and Exchange Commission put proposed changes in so-called circuit breakers out for public comment Tuesday. Those are measures that automatically halt trading if the market falls by certain percentages. The SEC wants smaller market declines to trigger halts, but it also wants to shorten the stoppages.

The "flash crash" of May 2010 didn't trigger the circuit breakers, which have activated only once since they were established in 1988.

They now stop trading if the Dow Jones industrial average tumbles 10 percent, 20 percent or 30 percent. The new benchmarks would be drops of 7 percent, 13 percent or 20 percent in the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index. □



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Amazon expected to launch tablet Wednesday

PETER SVENSSON

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Amazon is expected to unveil a tablet computer Wednesday, picking a fight with Apple Inc. and its iPad. The iPad has many challengers, but analysts say Amazon's could be different — it has a chance to be more than a wannabe.

Amazon.com Inc. is nearly unique in its ability to sell content such as e-books, movies and music suited for a tablet, just like Apple does.

In addition, the "Kindle" tablet could be a reminder, right in the owner's hands, to buy general merchandise from Amazon. Running out of toilet paper? Just add it to your Amazon shopping cart.

"In essence, the Kindle is a Trojan horse for Amazon's retail and media brands," said Morgan Keegan analyst Justin Patterson.

Seattle-based Amazon hasn't confirmed that it is launching a tablet, but it's holding an event in New York on Wednesday morning, with its CEO Jeff Bezos speaking. With the iPad, Apple has created a whole new product category of tablet computers. Many have tried to copy its success, but so far, the iPad is the only really successful product. Apple sold 28.7 million of them from April 2010 to June 2011. Analysts at research firm Gartner Inc. expect the iPad to account for three out of four tablet sales this year.

Analysts believe Amazon's new tablet will come in two sizes: one with a screen that's 7 inches on the diagonal, a bit larger than the Kindle e-reader, and one that's 10 inches, slightly bigger than the iPad.

They also expect Amazon to subsidize the cost of the tablet, on the expectation that it will make the money back when owners buy things through the tablet. □

Stocks rise for third day

CHIP CUTTER

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks

rose broadly Tuesday on hopes that Europe was moving closer to resolving its debt crisis. The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 146 points as industrial and materials companies led the market higher.

Germany's chancellor Angela Merkel said her country would do whatever it could to help Greece regain investors' confidence. Greece's finance minister also said that country would receive the next round of bailout loans in time to avoid a default. Greece was at risk of running out of money by mid-October if it did not receive the funds.

"Europeans are finally starting to understand that they need to act with some force to get ahead of the European debt crisis," said John Briggs, a fixed-income strategist at RBS.

The Dow rose 146.83 points, or 1.3 percent, to close at 11,190.69.

It had been up as many as



Traders work on the floor at the New York Stock Exchange in New York, Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2011.

Associated Press

325 points earlier. The Dow has added 419 points over the last two days, making up more than half of its 737-point plunge last week. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 12.43, or 1.1 percent, to 1,175.38. Materials stocks led the S&P higher. Specialty metals company Allegheny Technologies Inc. rose 7.4 percent, the most in the index.

The Nasdaq composite rose 30.14, or 1.2 percent, to 2,546.83.

The gains were broad. Five stocks rose for every

one that fell on the New York Stock Exchange. All 10 company groups that make up the Standard & Poor's 500 index rose. Volume was slightly higher than average at 4.9 billion shares.

Small companies rose more than larger ones, a sign that investors were moving money into riskier investments. The Russell 2000 index, a benchmark for small-cap stocks, rose 2.2 percent. European markets also closed sharply higher. □



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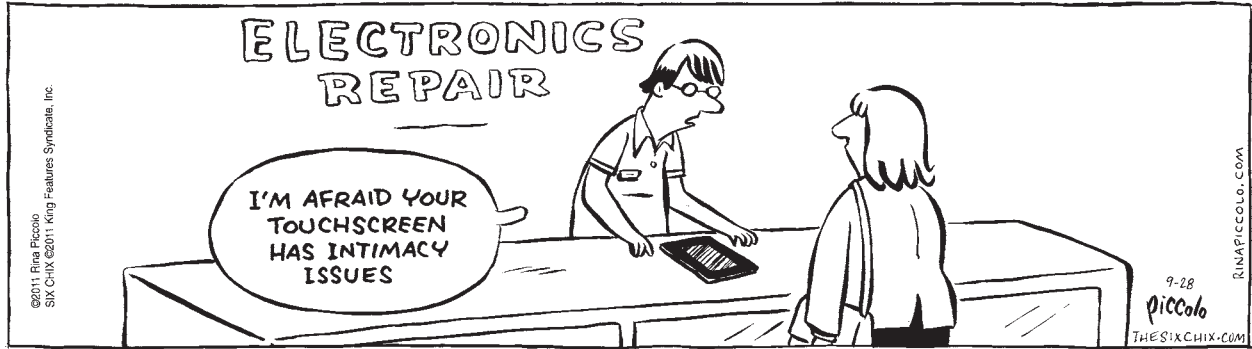
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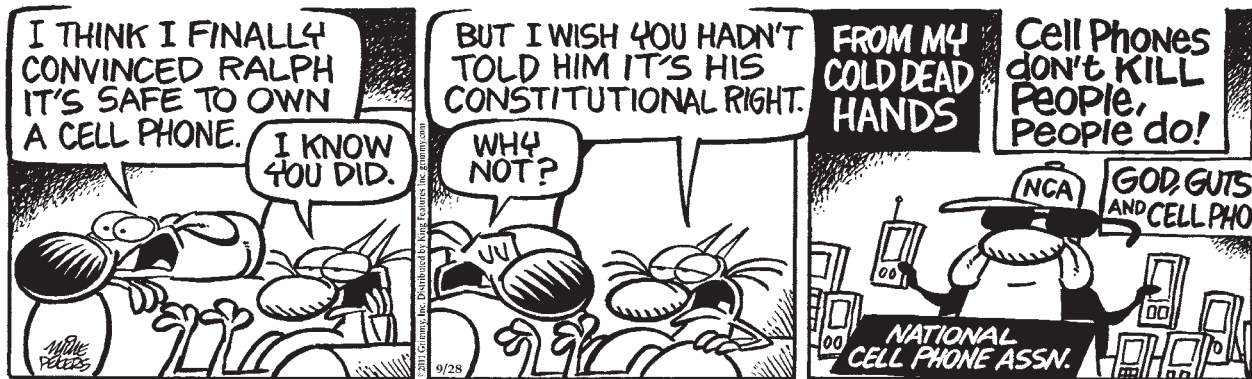
6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		1	4	3	5			
			8			1		
7		5					4	
5	7				9			3
	1						5	
4	6	2						1
6	8		7				1	
2				4	1	8		
			3	6				

Difficulty Level ★★★

9/28

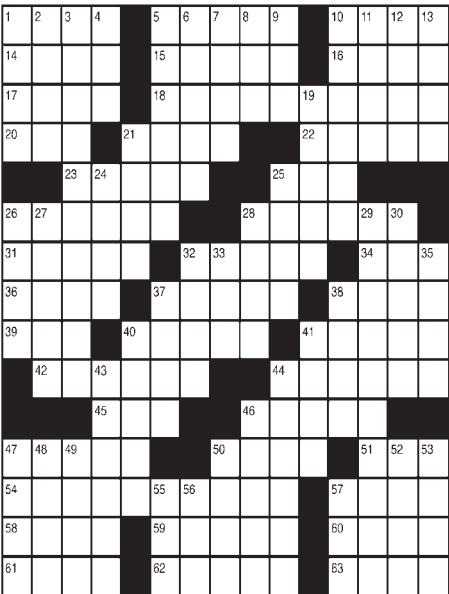
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

5	8	7	2	6	1	3	9	4
4	1	6	3	7	9	2	5	8
3	9	2	5	4	8	7	1	6
2	5	9	7	8	6	4	3	1
8	4	3	1	9	5	6	7	2
6	7	1	4	2	3	5	8	9
1	6	5	9	3	4	8	2	7
7	3	8	6	1	2	9	4	5
9	2	4	8	5	7	1	6	3

ACROSS

- 1 Have a meal
- 5 Trimmed a lawn's border
- 10 Foreboding sign
- 14 Take __; pledge formally
- 15 Go away
- 16 Not taped
- 17 Like a poor excuse
- 18 Frequently
- 20 Conclusion
- 21 Gorillas
- 22 Obvious
- 23 Very willing
- 25 Taro root paste
- 26 Granny Smiths & McIntoshes
- 28 Eases
- 31 Storm and Gordon
- 32 Jesus' betrayer
- 34 Crawling insect
- 36 Burden
- 37 Robust
- 38 Sketch
- 39 Jewel
- 40 Sets on fire
- 41 Zodiac sign
- 42 Memorizes
- 44 Rescuers
- 45 Desert fruit
- 46 Also-ran
- 47 Country estate
- 50 Black, Yellow, Red & Caspian
- 51 " __ Father, Who art in..."
- 54 Each other
- 57 Immaculate
- 58 Knickknack
- 59 Long-standing quarrels
- 60 Basketful from the henhouse
- 61 Prescribed amount
- 62 Upright
- 63 Sharpen; hone



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

9/28/11

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

BLAHS	OVEN	MASS
ROBOT	COLE	OPEN
ARENA	TILL	LANE
DETERRED	SPARSE	
SCOT	BOOSTER	
MOUTHY	SENDS	
ANN	YARNS	SEALS
STIR	LOATH	SNAP
TOTEM	VISIT	TOO
LIBEL	DETEST	
THEATER	NEER	
HALTER	MISMATCH	
ANTI	EPIC	IDAHO
NOON	FORE	NEXUS
KING	TIER	GRIME

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9/28/11

DOWN

- 1 Valley
- 2 __ the Terrible
- 3 Pen name
- 4 Mother sheep
- 5 Weds secretly
- 6 Postpone
- 7 Guns
- 8 Christmas __; December 24
- 9 TV room, often
- 10 __ Newton-John
- 11 Silent actor
- 12 At any time
- 13 Bird's home
- 19 Saw & hammer
- 21 Matures
- 24 Pub orders
- 25 Drama
- 26 Very eager
- 27 Group of seminar speakers
- 28 __ up; totals
- 29 NASCAR champ Cale __
- 30 Entrap
- 32 Jolts
- 33 "Ode on a Grecian __"
- 35 " __ the night before Christmas..."
- 37 __ up; ended a phone call

- 38 Urgent
- 40 Actor __ Keith
- 41 Not as much
- 43 Blazing
- 44 Raspy-voiced
- 46 City NNW of London
- 47 Empty space
- 48 3 __ 15 is 5
- 49 Iacocca et al.
- 50 Turn one's back on
- 52 Encourage
- 53 Take a break
- 55 Many a time
- 56 Shirt, for short
- 57 Church seat

Today In History

The Associated Press
Today is Wednesday, September 28, the 271st day of 2011. There are 94 days left in the year. Highlights in history on this date:

1066 - William, duke of Normandy, invades England and claims the English throne.
1542 - Portuguese navigator Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo arrives at present-day San Diego.
1687 - Turks surrender Athens to Venetians, but retake it a year later.
1716 - Treaty of Hanover between England and France leads to Triple Alliance with Holland.
1781 - American forces backed by a French fleet, begin the siege of Yorktown Heights, Virginia, during the Revolutionary War.
1787 - Congress votes to send the just-completed U.S. Constitution to state legislatures for their approval.
1850 - Flogging is abolished as a form of punishment in the U.S. Navy.
1915 - British defeat Turks at Kut-el-Amara in Mesopotamia.
1920 - A grand jury indicts eight members of the Chicago White Sox baseball team, accused of throwing the 1919 World Series and dubbed the "Black Sox."
1924 - Two U.S. Army planes land in Seattle, Washington, completing the first round-the-world flight in 175 days.
1939 - Germany and Soviet Union agree on a plan to partition Poland.
1941 - Nazi German terror campaign begins in Czechoslovakia.
1950 - Indonesia is admitted to United Nations.
1958 - The new 5th Republican French Constitution is approved.
1961 - Syrian army officers lead a rebellion against Egyptian domination of the Syrian Region of the United Arab Republic because of the nationalization and socialization programs Egypt was trying to implement.
1965 - A volcano 55



Today is Mira Sorvino's birthday

kilometers (35 miles) south of Manila in Philippines erupts, killing at least 184 people.
1980 - Iran rejects U.N. Security Council resolution to end the war with Iraq, stating Iraq was violating its territorial sovereignty and fomenting rebellion among Iran's minority population in the Khuzistan and Kurdistan provinces.
1990 - Three Philippine military officers and 13 soldiers are convicted and sentenced to life in prison for the 1983 murder of

opposition leader Benigno S. Aquino Jr.
1991 - Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko agrees to form a coalition government with opposition leaders after five days of rioting, the first time in his 26 years of rule that he agrees to share power.

Today's Birthdays:

Prosper Merimee, French author (1803-1870); Georges Clemenceau, French premier (1841-1929); Peter Finch, Australian actor (1916-1977); Marcello Mastroianni, Italian actor (1924-1996); Brigitte Bardot, French actress (1934--); Ben E. King, U.S. singer (1938--); John Sayles, U.S. film director/writer (1950--); Janeane Garofalo, actress (1964--); Mira Sorvino, actress (1967--); Naomi Watts, actress (1968--).

Thought For Today:

Time cools, time clarifies; no mood can be maintained quite unaltered through the course of hours — Thomas Mann, German writer (1875-1955). □



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Roman Polanski takes stage at Zurich film

JOHN HEILPRIN
Associated Press

ZURICH (AP) — Two years after police in Zurich led Roman Polanski away to prison, the Oscar-winning director returned to a very different reception in the city, where he wrapped himself in applause and recognition Tuesday night by picking up a cinematic award and releasing a "memoir" of his life that had been treated like a state secret.



Polish born film director Roman Polanski picks up the award for his life work while festival director Nadja Schildknecht looks on at the Film Festival in Zurich, Switzerland, Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2011. The award was intended to be given two years ago to Polanski when he was arrested and prisoned for 70 days.
(AP Photo/Michael Probst)

The Polish-French director of "Rosemary's Baby" took the stage of the Zurich Film Festival to finally accept the lifetime achievement award that he was unable to pick up in 2009, after being arrested for a decades-old sex-crime case. He had been arrested by Swiss police on arrival at the Zurich airport on a U.S. warrant from 1978, then spent months in prison and later house arrest because of charges that he had sex with a 13-year-old girl in 1977. But he successfully avoided extradition to the United States after the Swiss government declined to deport him. Now able to travel unhindered to Switzerland, Polanski, 78, arrived at the festival hall as a spotlight followed him. Several hundred people stood to applaud him as he took

his seat. He later strode to the stage amid nearly a minute's sustained clapping. "Friends, what can I can say? Better late than never," he began, as the audience erupted in laughter. "Two years, day for day. Certain parts of it I would rather forget. But I'm happy to be here, because I know that it was not only a blow to me, to my family, but also to the festival itself,"

he said. "It's a very moving moment for me." Though Polanski could joke about the ordeal, he acknowledged the pain of it but said little else, allowing the world premier of a full-length documentary — "Roman Polanski: A Film Memoir" — to largely speak for him. "I would only like to take the opportunity of being here to thank all those who supported me during these difficult months. I would particularly like to say my thanks to the prison staff for trying to make my stay there as bearable as possible," he added. Polanski still faces an Interpol warrant in effect for 188 countries for extradition to the United States. He moves freely between Switzerland, which refused to extradite him, and France, which has a blanket policy of not extraditing its citizens. □

'L Word' star removed for excessive kiss

TRACIE CONE
Associated Press

The publicist for a lesbian actress and musician who says she was escorted off a flight for "one modest kiss" of her partner says the encounter was not a stunt for her band's upcoming breast cancer awareness tour. Leisha Hailey, best known for playing Alice Pieszecki in the now defunct Showtime lesbian life drama "The L Word," asked her Twitter followers to boycott Southwest Airlines after the encounter Monday. The airline responded that Hailey's display of affection was excessive and drew customer complaints. The actress and her partner, Camila Grey, denied in a statement released Tuesday that the affection they showed toward each other was inappropriate. "We want to make it clear we were not making out or creating any kind of spectacle of ourselves, it was one modest kiss," the written statement said. "We are responsible adult women who walk through the world with dignity. We were simply being affectionate like any normal couple." Hailey and Grey acknowledge they became upset



Actress Leisha Hailey appears on stage to accept an award at the 20th Annual GLAAD Media Awards in Los Angeles. Hailey, a lesbian actress who starred in "The L-Word," said she kissed a girl - and got escorted off of a Southwest Airlines flight for doing it.
(AP Photo/Dan Steinberg, File)

after the flight attendant reprimanded them. They said the attendant told them that Southwest is a "family airline." "No matter how quietly homophobia is whispered, it doesn't make it any less

loud," the statement said. "You can't whisper hate. We ask this airline to teach their employees to not discriminate against any couple, ever, regardless of their own beliefs." Hailey and Grey said they plan to file a formal complaint with the airline. The incident resulted in a national media spotlight for the actress, who now is a part of the electro-pop duo Uh Huh Her. Publicist Libby Coffey said Tuesday that the encounter was real and was "absolutely not" done for attention. The airline said in a news release posted on its website: "Our crew, responsible for the comfort of all Customers on board, approached the passengers based solely on behavior and not gender. The conversation escalated to a level that was better resolved on the ground, as opposed to in flight." Hailey tweeted that she was escorted off the flight after it landed. The statement said the incident with the flight attendant lasted five minutes. The air carrier so far has limited its response to the four-sentence statement on its website. □

Mexico Fashion Week



A model wears a creation by Colombian designer Jorge Duque during the Mexico Fashion Week in Mexico City.

(AP Photo/Moises Castillo)

Foo Fighters and their audience, revel in enthusiasm



Dave Grohl, lead singer and guitarist of the Foo Fighters, performs with the band at the Izod Center, in East Rutherford, N.J., Sept. 26, 2011. Grohl, the energetic front man of the band, sees to reflect his audience's purest enthusiasms.

(Karsten Moran/The New York Times)

BEN RATLIFF

© 2011 New York Times

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — In the second half of "This Is a Call," the forthcoming biography of Dave Grohl written by British journalist Paul Brannigan, the narrative shifts completely and some new motifs emerge. That shift comes after the violent end of Nirvana, in which Grohl played drums, loudly and elegantly; it's when the book becomes the story of the Foo Fighters, the band Grohl started in 1994 and built into a major work of commerce. One motif is the word "dude." Grohl and the musicians around him are duding each other all over the place, in moments of tension or ambition: "He's kind of a hyper dude." "I'm out, dude." "Dude, you're awesome." "Dude, I want you to stay in the band." "I'm not a competitive dude, but..." "Dude, you gotta get me an audition." There's also the notion of arriving, as in "I've finally arrived." In the book, the Foo Fighters seem to be finally arriving about once a year, usually in or around an arena.

On Monday night at the Izod Center here, during the 40-minute encore of a concert running nearly three hours, Grohl stood on a 20-foot riser alone with an acoustic guitar. His vulpine teeth flashed, and his black dress shirt was soaked through. He hadn't changed it during

the break.

"You know, we were driving here in the van today," he told the audience, "and I saw something I'd never seen before." He described fans with six-packs and coolers, grilling meat in the parking lot. "And I was like: Oh my God, I've arrived. People are tailgating at my rock show."

Grohl reflects his audience's purest enthusiasms. He writes adrenalized riffs evoking old FM radio hits — about three decent songs per album being the general rule, the rest a confident snooze — then comes to your civic center and wears you down with his six-piece, three-guitar band, screaming choruses in your face while chewing gum, one foot propped on the stage monitor.

On Monday he ran several times from the stage to the back of the arena

floor, where he had another stage monitor to put his foot on. Even up on his spire, strumming his acoustic, he seemed to bounce off the walls. "Come on! Sing it loud! WAAAAAH-HHH!" He earns respect: He's informed, and doesn't condescend.

And sometimes he seems like a radical balancer of rock attitudes. Monday's set ran through bits of doom-metal, punk, post-hardcore, folk-rock, power-pop, prog-psych. (The set also included the riff section of Pink Floyd's stoner processional "In the Flesh," which Pink Floyd was scheduled to play Tuesday on "Late Night With Jimmy Fallon.") Grohl and his tastes may be the only carbon-based link between the Boredoms and Tom Petty, whose "Breakdown" the Foo Fighters played during a dudely lull. But he's also a kind of preservationist, waving a flag for work-ethic, or sonic texture, or manual dexterity, or musical history, or something. At one point he addressed some teenage fans near the stage. "You want to start a band?" he said. "You don't need a computer. You need one of these." He pointed to his guitar.

After that, during the slow-and-jammy breakdown in "Monkey Wrench," the grayer part of the audience — the vast majority — held up their own flags: not glowing cell phones, but cigarette lighters. □



Audience members cheer as the Foo Fighters perform at the Izod Center, in East Rutherford, N.J., Sept. 26, 2011.

(Karsten Moran/The New York Times)

Sofia Vergara launches clothing line

ALICIA QUARLES

AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — At times, it is hard to tell the difference between Sofia Vergara and Gloria, the character she plays on ABC's hit comedy, "Modern Family." Both have gregarious personalities, an uproarious sense of humor, an enormous shot of sex appeal and daring fashion sense. Now other women can be more like Vergara (or Gloria) thanks to the Colombian star's new clothing line at Kmart. The line features

wear under your leggings and still look well put together and sexy."

The Sofia line, available at affordable prices, also includes accessories, camisoles, shirts, skirts and jackets.

The 39-year-old Emmy-nominated actress talked more about her line, "Modern Family" and celebrating her "Latin-ness" during a stop at Kmart, accompanied by The Associated Press.

AP: Why did you want to design your own fashion



Actress Sofia Vergara, from the ABC comedy "Modern Family," appears at a Kmart department store to launch her new Sofia by Sofia Vergara Collection in New York.

(AP Photo/Starpix, Marion Curtis)

the kind of outfits that have made Vergara so popular on the red carpet and beyond — figure-hugging dresses, tight pants, bright colors and short skirts.

"We have a lot of very comfortable and wearable things that can be worn by a woman of every size," Vergara explained of her Sofia clothing.

"We have a lot of colorful things like a dress you can wear with tights, or you can

collection?

Vergara: I always wanted to do it. I always had the thing for fashion, for beauty. But, I always wanted to team up with somebody like Kmart because that is what I wanted to create, a line that was affordable, that was for women of all sizes, every ethnicity, that could make them feel cute and beautiful without spending thousands of dollars. □

On top of famine, unspeakable violence



NICHOLAS D. KRISTOF
© 2011 New York Times

Imagine that you're a Somali suffering from the drought and famine in that country. One of your children has just starved to death, but there's no time to mourn. Depleted and traumatized, you set off on foot across the desert with your family, and after 15 exhausting days finally reach what you believe is the safe haven of Kenya. But at the very moment when you think you're secure, you encounter a nightmare stretch before they reach Dadaab, now the world's largest refugee camp.

It is difficult to know how many women are raped because the subject is taboo. But more than half of the newly arrived Somalis I interviewed, mostly with the help of CARE, said they had been attacked by bandits, sometimes in Somalia but very often on Kenyan soil. Some had been attacked two or three times.

In short, this seems like an instance of mass rape – adding one more layer of misery to the world's most desperate humanitarian crisis. The United Nations warns that 750,000 Somalis are at risk of starving to death in the coming months, and it's increasingly clear that those who try to save themselves and their children must endure a gantlet of robbers and rapists.

"There were three places where bandits attacked us," a 35-year-old mother told me. "The first two times they took money and food. The last time, I had nothing left to give them. So they raped me." The rape, by three men, occurred inside Kenya.

Another woman, a 20-year-old, said she was raped twice during her journey, first in Somalia and then after she had crossed into Kenya. One time, she said, the rapists left her na-

ked in the desert.

Although Somali culture sometimes blames a woman for being raped, there seems less of that now, perhaps because so many have been brutalized. The 20-year-old said her husband would not divorce her: "My husband still loves me," she said simply.

For unmarried women, rapes often involve tearing and physical injuries. That's because Somali girls often undergo an extreme kind of genital cutting, infibulation, that involves slicing off the genitals and sewing up the vagina with a wild thorn.

The bandits, who are virtually all ethnically Somali, seem to fear the al-Shabab militia on the Somali side of the border. On the Kenyan side, which is sparsely populated with little police presence, they feel impunity.

Aid groups have begun sending out vehicles to search for refugees near the border, sparing them the final few days of hiking. That has helped, but the vehicles can't rescue everyone.

One obvious solution is to establish reception centers along the border, and then bus refugees to Dadaab. Kenya isn't embracing that idea, however, for fear of an even larger Somali influx.

It would be unfair to beat up on Kenya, for by international standards it has borne its responsibilities and been quite hospitable to Somali refugees. It doesn't turn people away from Dadaab, and so Kenya's third-largest city is now a Somali refugee camp. Yet the fact remains: To avert mass rape and violence, Kenya must permit aid agencies to establish reception centers at the Kenya-Somalia border.

Americans also suffer from compassion fatigue, and that brings me to a final point. In a previous column from Dadaab, I told of a father of eight who had lost two of his children to starvation and feared that he would lose three more. Many readers responded bluntly that when men have eight children, it is pointless to help. Saving Somalis, they say, reflects a soggy sentimentality and runs against a Malthusian constraint of mouths multiplying more rapidly than food.

This view is both repulsive and wrong. I often write about the need for more family planning, but Somalis have eight children partly because they know that several may die. If we help save lives now so that parents can be confident their kids will survive, family size will drop. Likewise, educate girls and they will have fewer children. □



Eurozone death trip



PAUL KRUGMAN
© 2011 New York Times

Is it possible to be both terrified and bored? That's how I feel about the negotiations now under way over how to respond to Europe's economic crisis, and I suspect other observers share the sentiment.

On one side, Europe's situation is really, really scary: with countries that account for a third of the euro area's economy now under speculative attack, the single currency's very existence is being threatened – and a euro collapse could inflict vast damage on the world. On the other side, European policymakers seem set to deliver more of the same. They'll probably find a way to provide more credit to countries in trouble, which may or may not stave off imminent disaster. But they don't seem at all ready to acknowledge a crucial fact – namely, that without more expansionary fiscal and monetary policies in Europe's stronger economies, all of their rescue attempts will fail.

The story so far: The introduction of the euro in 1999 led to a vast boom in lending to Europe's peripheral economies, because investors believed (wrongly) that the shared currency made Greek or Spanish debt just as safe as German

debt. Contrary to what you often hear, this lending boom wasn't mostly financing profligate government spending – Spain and Ireland actually ran budget surpluses on the eve of the crisis, and had low levels of debt. Instead, the inflows of money mainly fueled huge booms in private spending, especially on housing.

But when the lending boom abruptly ended, the result was both an economic and a fiscal crisis. Savage recessions drove down tax receipts, pushing budgets deep into the red; meanwhile, the cost of bank bailouts led to a sudden increase in public debt. And one result was a collapse of investor confidence in the peripheral nations' bonds.

So now what? Europe's answer has been to demand harsh fiscal austerity, especially sharp cuts in public spending, from troubled debtors, meanwhile providing stopgap financing until private-investor confidence returns. Can this strategy work?

Not for Greece, which actually was fiscally profligate during the good years, and owes more than it can plausibly repay. Probably not for Ireland and Portugal, which for different reasons also have heavy debt burdens. But given a favorable external environment – specifically, a strong overall European economy with moderate inflation – Spain, which even now has relatively low debt, and Italy, which has a high level of debt but surprisingly small deficits, could possibly pull it off. Unfortunately, European policymakers seem determined to deny those debtors the environment they need. Think of it this way: private demand in the debtor

countries has plunged with the end of the debt-financed boom. Meanwhile, public-sector spending is also being sharply reduced by austerity programs. So where are jobs and growth supposed to come from? The answer has to be exports, mainly to other European countries.

But exports can't boom if creditor countries are also implementing austerity policies, quite possibly pushing Europe as a whole back into recession.

Also, the debtor nations need to cut prices and costs relative to creditor countries like Germany, which wouldn't be too hard if Germany had 3 or 4 percent inflation, allowing the debtors to gain ground simply by having low or zero inflation. But the European Central Bank has a deflationary bias – it made a terrible mistake by raising interest rates in 2008 just as the financial crisis was gathering strength, and showed that it has learned nothing by repeating that mistake this year. As a result, the market now expects very low inflation in Germany – around 1 percent over the next five years – which implies significant deflation in the debtor nations. This will both deepen their slumps and increase the real burden of their debts, more or less ensuring that all rescue efforts will fail. And I see no sign at all that European policy elites are ready to rethink their hard-money-and-austerity dogma. Part of the problem may be that those policy elites have a selective historical memory. They love to talk about the German inflation of the early 1920s – a story that, as it happens, has no bearing on our current situation. □

Focaccia that's worth the extra effort



Schiacciata con l'uva, a rustic, focaccialike flatbread enriched with olive oil and studded with grapes in New York. Schiacciata con l'uva is the kind of harvest snack traditionally baked in Tuscany when the wine grapes are inky purple on the vines and the people hungry in the fields.

(Andrew Scrivani/The New York Times)

MELISSA CLARK

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Schiacciata con l'uva, a rustic, focaccialike flatbread enriched with olive oil and studded with grapes, is the kind of harvest snack traditionally baked in Tuscany when the wine grapes are inky purple on the vines and the people hungry in the fields. I've experienced only American iterations (usually just called focaccia, although they're much sweeter), made either with our native wine grape, the Concord, or with sweet seedless red grapes. If I hadn't had a focaccia made with Concord grapes, I'd probably be perfectly happy with the red seedless. But I have, so I'm not. The ConCORDs, with their musky, spicy skins, condense into intense jammy mouthfuls all over the savory, oily, rosemary-flecked bread. The seedless grapes bake up sweet, juicy and tasty, but not nearly as complex or seductive. The only problem with Concord grapes is that they need to be seeded, while the seedless ones can simply be strewn over the dough. And if you've never seeded a Concord grape, I can tell you, it's tedious work. It's much more persnickety than cherry pitting, and there's no tool other than fingers and a paring knife to help you through it (your favorite toe-tapping music helps). Even worse, each grape contains more than just one slippery little seed — two or three are the norm, imprisoned in a mucilaginous sac. Once, after an Italian friend said his mother never seeded the grapes

for schiacciata, I tried leaving the ConCORDs intact. Italian wine grapes must have smaller, less tannic seeds because my focaccia was inedible. Another time, after spotting a hybrid seedless grape variety called a Thomcord, I was sure my grape problems were solved. But alas, despite the promisingly purple, Concord-like skin, the flavor was only marginally deeper than the usual red seedless. This year, I tried some of the less seedy but more interesting grape varieties available at the farmers' market, including Niagara, Canadice and Himrod.

I scattered them all over the moist dough (which I spiked with a little cornmeal for crunch) before sprinkling on sugar, rosemary and a slick of olive oil. The focaccia baked up beautifully, the golden surface encrusted with multicolored grapes like autumnal jewels. It wasn't quite as jammy as the Concord version, but definitely spicier and more fragrant than what the usual seedless grapes produce. It was a happy compromise in this grape-happy season.

GRAPE FOCACCIA

Time: 1 hour 15 minutes, plus 1 hour's rising
6 tablespoons (60 grams) extra virgin olive oil, more for drizzling
1 tablespoon (3 grams), plus 1 teaspoon (1 gram), fresh rosemary leaves
2 teaspoons (8 grams) active dry yeast
1 2/3 cups (207 grams) all-purpose flour, more as needed
2/3 cup (85 grams) fine cornmeal

5 tablespoons (90 grams) granulated sugar
1 1/2 teaspoons (49 grams) salt
2 1/4 cups (350 grams) Concord, black or red grapes
1/2 cup pine nuts (29 grams), optional
Flaky sea salt, for sprinkling.
1. In a small skillet over medium heat, warm the oil. Stir in 1 tablespoon rosemary leaves. Remove the pan from the heat and let it cool.
2. Place 3/4 cup (177 grams) lukewarm water (105 to 115 degrees) in a large bowl. Sprinkle the yeast over it. Let it stand until foamy, about 5 minutes.
3. Stir in the olive oil mixture, 1 2/3 cups flour, cornmeal, 3 tablespoons (54 grams) sugar, and salt to the yeast mixture. Stir until a soft dough forms.
4. Turn the dough out onto a floured surface. Knead until it is smooth and elastic, about 10 minutes, or knead in a stand mixer with a dough hook attached, for about 5 minutes. If using the stand mixer, finish the dough by hand, on a floured surface, for 1 minute. Add more flour; it could need as much as another 1/4 cup (31 grams) if the dough feels very sticky (you want damp but not unworkable dough).
5. Oil a large bowl. Place the dough in the bowl, and turn to coat it lightly with the oil. Cover the bowl with a dish towel. Place the bowl in a warm place, and let it rise until the dough has doubled, about 1 hour.
6. Halve the grapes if they are large. If using Concord, seed them.
7. Heat the oven to 400 degrees. Oil a large cookie sheet or baking pan (11-by-17-inch) with some olive oil.
8. Punch down the dough, then pat it into the pan, stretching into an oval about 3/8- to 1/2-inch thick — it should not fill the entire pan. Dimple the dough with your fingertips. Scatter the grapes and pine nuts, if using, over the dough, pressing them in lightly. Sprinkle the remaining 2 tablespoons (36 grams) sugar, 1 teaspoon rosemary, and flaky sea salt over the grapes. Drizzle all over with plenty of oil. Bake until golden brown, 25 to 30 minutes. Yield: 6 to 8 servings. □



Roasted foie gras, a peppercorn biscuit and chicken skin with spiced honey, in New York. By using chicken skins for its texture and powerful flavor in all sorts of dishes, chefs are legitimizing what used to be a guilty pleasure.

(Dominic Perri/The New York Times)

Skin deep attraction

SARAH DIGREGORIO

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NEW YORK — There are white-meat people and there are dark-meat people; there are those who swear by the drumstick, thigh or breast.

And then there are skin people. They are the ones who cannot help themselves around roast or fried chicken, ripping off the crispiest bits of skin before the bird makes it to the table.

Nate Gutierrez, the chef and owner of Nate's Taco Truck and Nate's Taco Truck Stop in Richmond, Va., could not stop snacking on the skin left over from his roast chickens. So about six months ago, he decided to make the skin crisp on the flattop and offer it in a taco. The chicken-skin tacos sell out whenever they are on the menu.

By using chicken skin for its texture and powerful flavor in all sorts of dishes, chefs are legitimizing what used to be a guilty pleasure, whether they call it gribenes, yakitori kawa or cracklings.

There is no more-committed evangelist than Sean Brock, executive chef of Husk and McCrady's in Charleston, S.C. If it can be done in the kitchen, Brock has done it to chicken skin: He marinates it in buttermilk, then smokes and deep fries for a crunchy appetizer served with hot sauce and honey. He layers it with rabbit in a terrine. His twist on Southern chicken and dumplings includes a block of braised shredded chicken thighs sandwiched between rendered sheets of the stuff.

"Everyone knows deep down that they are closet chicken-skin lovers," he said. "They just need some help."

The appetite for chicken skin is a logical outgrowth of fried chicken mania and the fashion for over-the-top foods. Last year, in the aftermath of the KFC Double Down sandwich, a rumor that the chain was testing a "skinwich" flew around the Internet. The rumor was met with disgust and excitement before it was proved to be false. □



Nate Gutierrez, chef and owner of Nate's Taco Truck and Nate's Taco Truck Stop, with a grilled chicken skin taco, at the shop in Richmond, Va., Aug. 23, 2011. By using chicken skins for its texture and powerful flavor in all sorts of dishes, chefs are legitimizing what used to be a guilty pleasure.
(Sarah Walor/The New York Times)